STEAM

Job Printing.

The Proprietors of the

MAINE FARMER

—HAVE—

Refitted in a Thorough Manner

—THEIR—

Steam Job Printing Office.

And having secured the services of first-class Job Printers, under the charge of an Experienced Foreman,

They are now Prepared to Execute with Neatness and Despatch,

Every Variety of

NEWSPAPER, BOOK,

—AND—

Ceneral Job Printing.

PAMPHLETS,
TOWN REPORTS,
TOWN ORDERS,
HANDBILLS,
CATALOGUES,
CIRCULARS,
PROGRAMMES,
BRIEFS, ETC.

Printed with Care and Accuracy.

Orders by Mail Promptly Attended to.

BADGER & MANLEY,

Williams Block, Water St., two Doors South of Kennebec Bridge.

NOTICE.

WHEREAS, notice has been given in writing to the Augusta Savings Bank, that Deposit Book No. 10765, issued by said Bank, is supposed to be lost, and application thereof is made by Julia Hanson, late of China, in the County of Kennebec, deceased, testate, and has undertaken that trust by giving bond as the law directs: All persons, therefore, having demands against the estate of said deceased, are desired to exhibit the same for settlement; and all indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to

JOSEPH H. WALL.

Jan. 10, 1887. 10*

KENNEBEC COUNTY....*In Probate Court, held at Augusta, on the second Monday of January, 1886.*

ANDREW J. PIERCE, Administrator on the estate of JOSHUA D. PIERCE, late of Augusta, in said county deceased, having presented his first account of administration of said estate for allowance:

ORDERED, That notice thereof be given three weeks successively prior to the second Monday of February next, in the Maine Farmer, a newspaper printed in Augusta, that all persons interested may attend at a Probate Court then to be held at Augusta, and show cause, if any, why the same should not be allowed.

H. S. WEBSTER, *Judge.*

Attest: HOWARD OWEN, *Register.* 10*

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the subscriber has been duly appointed Executor of the last will and testament of CYRUS WHITE, late of Augusta, in the County of Kennebec, deceased, testate, and has undertaken that trust by giving bond as the law directs: All persons, therefore, having demands against the estate of said deceased, are desired to exhibit the same for settlement; and all indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to

FLORA E. HOYT.

December 13, 1886. 10*

KENNEBEC COUNTY....*In Probate Court, held at Augusta, on the third Monday of December, 1886.*

CERTAIN INSTRUMENT, purporting to be the last will and testament of JOSHUA L. HEATH, late of Belgrade, in said County, deceased, having been presented for probate:

ORDERED, That notice thereof be given three weeks successively prior to the second Monday of January next, in the Maine Farmer, a newspaper printed in Augusta, that all persons interested may attend at a Court of Probate then to be held at Augusta, and show cause, if any, why the said instrument should not be proved, approved and allowed, as the last will and testament of the said deceased.

H. S. WEBSTER, *Judge.*

Attest: HOWARD OWEN, *Register.* 10*

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the subscriber has been duly appointed Administrator, with the will annexed of the estate of JULIA G. HANSON, late of China, in the County of Kennebec, deceased, testate, and has undertaken that trust by giving bond as the law directs: All persons, therefore, having demands against the estate of said deceased, are desired to exhibit the same for settlement; and all indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to

JOSEPH H. WALL.

Jan. 10, 1887. 10*

KENNEBEC COUNTY....*In Probate Court held at Augusta, on the second Monday of January, 1886.*

ANDREW J. PIERCE, Administrator on the estate of JOSHUA D. PIERCE, late of Augusta, in said county deceased, having presented his first account of administration of said estate for allowance:

ORDERED, That notice thereof be given three weeks successively prior to the second Monday of February next, in the Maine Farmer, a newspaper printed in Augusta, that all persons interested may attend at a Probate Court then to be held at Augusta, and show cause, if any, why the same should not be allowed.

H. S. WEBSTER, *Judge.*

Attest: HOWARD OWEN, *Register.* 10*

DEAFNESS Its causes, and a new and successful CURE as your correspondent, who was deaf twenty-eight years. Treated by most of the noted specialists without benefit. Cured *herself* in three months, and since then hundreds of others. Full particulars sent on application. T. S. PAGE, No. 41 West 31st St., New York City. 26tf5*

THE MAINE FARMER,

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY, BY

BADGER & MANLEY.

OFFICE: WILLIAMS BLOCK, WATER STREET, Within two doors of the Bridge.

TERMS: $2 Per Annum, in Advance.

FREE OF POSTAGE.

IF NOT PAID WITHIN THE YEAR, $2.50 WILL BE CHARGED.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING:

For one inch space, $1.50 for three insertions, and seventy-two cents for each subsequent insertion. Special Notices, $1.50 per inch for each insertion. All transient advertisements to be paid for in advance.

TRAVELING AGENTS.

C. S. ATER, J. H. PRATT, J. W. KELLOGG.

Maine Farmer.

BADGER & MANLEY, Publishers and Proprietors.

"OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR BROTHER MAN."

TERMS: Two Dollars per annum, in Advance.

VOL. LV. AUGUSTA, MAINE, THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 1887. No. 11.

Our able correspondent, I. C. Libby, is spurring up the Aroostook farmers to more sheep husbandry, and has a long article in the *Pioneer* to that effect. There is room for lots of sheep in that county, and enough to feed them on.

The sheep that showed the least percentage of offal as compared with live weight at the late American Fat Stock Show, was a Southdown; and the winner of the carcass prize as one year old at the same show was also a Southdown.

We call attention to the communication in another column from our Turner correspondent, giving a detailed report of the work of the Turner Center creamery for the year past, and commend the results secured to the careful attention of the dairymen of the State.

Ensilage has no advantage over green fodder, according to the *Live Stock Journal*. Its great advantage consists in its safe and long preservation in a succulent condition at a comparatively small loss in feeding value, so that it can be used when other green food cannot otherwise be had.

In an experience meeting held recently by Ritchie Grange, of Waldo, where members related their successes and failures during the past season, their methods of planting, cultivating and cropping generally, it was found that corn had been the best paying local crop and that the best results had followed spreading manure on the furrows, working in well with the harrow and using phosphate in the hill.

The bill creating a department of agriculture and labor, under the control of a secretary of agriculture and labor, who shall be a member of the President's cabinet, was passed in the House of Representatives at Washington, by a vote of 222 to 26. This measure has been strenuously advocated by the National Grange, and its passage in the House by so overwhelming a majority is a handsome recognition of the demands of the farmers of the country. It is likely not to fare as well in the Senate, but may squeeze through provided it is not delayed without action.

Mr. B. F. Johnson's impressions of Kansas, during a recent journey, are published by "The Western Agriculturist," from which the appended excerpt is taken:

"If we go to the court house and examine the records, we shall find more than half the real estate under mortgage, and if we advertise a house or farm we shall have two-thirds of the people of the town and country will be at our heels. In a few words: a crowd of lying land agents, shyster lawyers and shark bankers have seduced Eastern capital to invest in Kansas and the people to borrow money at high rates of interest, to the extent the debtor has the creditor by the throat and the farmer has to subscribe to the monstrous ile of big crops, when the crops are the greatest failure for years."

At a farmers' meeting in Boston, the apple being under discussion, B. P. Ware of Marblehead, stated that the Essex County Agricultural Society had offered a standing prize of $100 for a seedling variety as good as the Baldwin, in anticipation of the time when "the natural life of this valuable variety shall have been spanned," or it shall have become, as Hosea Bigelow would express it, "lifeless, defunct, dead without doubt." If the Essex Society has learned that a variety of fruit has a definite measure of life allotted to it, it has delved much farther into the mysteries of nature than the rest of us. There may be found as good a variety as the Baldwin, but if it has to wait for this old variety to die out and leave a vacuum for it, we predict the place for it is a great way off.

Editor Maine Farmer: I wish to know if there are any herds of pure Devon cattle kept in this State? How does this breed rank for the dairy? Inquirer.

A READER OF MAINE FARMER.

Houlton, Jan., 1887.

Luther Maxim, West Sumner, has a herd of Devon cattle, and Chas. B. Gilman, Bingham, has a few animals. These are all we have any knowledge of at the present time in the State. This breed was introduced into the State to quite an extent some twenty years ago by the Poland Shakers, also by Hon. John F. Madison, then of Windham, now of Portland, but for some reason unknown to us, did not so establish itself in the favor of farmers as to hold its position, and gradually disappeared. Recently the parties above named have started herds and are now breeding them. Cattle of this breed are quite numerous in the Connecticut river valley, and also Rhode Island, and are popular with many farmers. A widely known farmer of that State, whom we met at the Bay State Fair, claimed they are the best breed among us for the general purposes of milk, working oxen and beef. The cows give a fair flow of milk, rich in cream, while the oxen are specially good workers and thrive better on pasturage alone than the larger breeds.

Board of Agriculture.

The meeting of the State Board of Agriculture held last week at the State House, gave ample evidence of being made up of men who thoroughly understand the agricultural affairs of the State, and are studying faithfully to promote its interests. There appears to be entire harmony among its members and full sympathy between them and their secretary. The able papers on State aid to agriculture and the jurisdiction of the Board, read by the members from York and Sagadahoc respectively, were a credit to their authors and placed the work that is being done by the Board in a light that can but claim the approval of every man who is interested in the work of the Board, and that of the agricultural societies, both State and county.

The new members of the Board who took their seats at this session were, L. H. Blossom, Turner Center, for Androscoggin county; E. W. Stetson, Damariscotta, Lincoln county; R. W. Ellis, Belfast, Waldo county; S. C. Watson, Oakland, Kennebec county; David W. Campbell, Cherryfield, Washington county.

Mr. Stetson has had service on the Board before, having served a term three years ago. He has also had large legislative experience. The other new members are representative farmers in their respective localities, and thoroughly familiar with practical affairs in all their bearings; and they manifest an intention on coming to their work of entering upon their duties with earnestness. The make-up of the Board was never better, and through the determined purpose and unity of feeling prevailing we may feel confident that no duties will be neglected and no opportunities overlooked.

A Large Orchard.

Phineas Whittier of Chesterville, has the largest orchard in the State. The trees were all raised by himself and have been planted out with his own hands. Mr. Whittier has a passion for apple trees, and plants them out because he can't help it. And so as he became an owner of land he began to grow trees and set them in an orchard, and he has followed the practice up to the present time and is not done yet. His trees are set on characteristic Franklin county land, rocky and rough, yet strong and productive, and just the soil that apple trees delight in. A year ago, 1885, his crop was some 1200 barrels, and the past year was 1600 barrels, and only half his trees are yet in bearing. If his life and his pluck are spared, there is no telling how many apples his ambition will be good for. Mr. Whittier's business is systematized as only a large business can be. His apples are all sold to one party in Boston. They are always well sorted, and the purchaser knows when any are received that he is getting a choice article. Having established a reputation with his purchaser, of course he gets a premium price for his fruit.

All the numerous trees are evaporated on his own premises. This work can be carried on after the harvesting is all over and was not completed this year till well into the winter. The advance in evaporated apples gives him good returns for this quality of fruit. Ways and methods peculiarly his own enable him to turn off a uniformly choice article, such as is, like his apples, always in demand. The barrels for his fruit are all made by himself and on his own premises. This gives a uniform style and the casks are secured at cost prices. Through these business-like methods of carrying on his work, Mr. Whittier is now realizing an income from his orchards, which is a rich reward for the labor he has expended, and beside he will leave a rich legacy of fruit trees to benefit another generation. His example should be repeated on other of the cheap lands which are to be found all over the State.

Pomological Society.

The annual winter meeting of the State Pomological Society, is to be held at Farmington on Thursday and Friday, February 3 and 4. Franklin county is an excellent fruit growing section, and Farmington will give the meeting a cordial greeting. Mr. D. H. Knowlton, Treasurer of the society, Capt. Keyes of the *Chronicle*, and Mr. S. R. Leland have charge of the local arrangements, and will leave nothing undone that will contribute to the success of the meeting. There are also interested orchardists in the vicinity who will render their aid in any way needed. The official announcement has not been published, but we suppose there will be the usual exhibition of winter fruits. Papers will be read by leading horticulturists, and ample time will be given for discussion of such matters as may be of special interest at this time. Half-fare rates have been secured over the Maine Central and Sandy River Railroads.

The fruit interests of our State are assuming an importance worthy of wide attention, and the production is still on the increase. The meetings of this society are designed to afford an opportunity to bring out the best methods and practices among the fruit growers and place the knowledge where it may be advantageous to others. There should be a large attendance at Farmington.

Valuation of Fertilizers.

At the meeting of the Board of Agriculture, last week, Prof. Jordan, Director of the Experiment Station, gave a lecture on the Valuation of Commercial Fertilizers, showing why a money valuation of the fertilizers analyzed at the station is made, and how that valuation is reached. The lecture was given in Representative's Hall, to a large audience made up, besides the board, of the farmer members of the legislature, and others interested in the matter. The Professor elucidated his subject in a clean-cut and able manner. We give a brief abstract.

The commercial value of the fertilizers in the market depends upon what they contain of one, two or all of three ingredients, viz., phosphoric acid, nitrogen, and potash. The raw materials are bought by manufacturers in the basis of the percentages of these ingredients, and market quotations have reference to the same basis. Nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash have as definite market values and market quotations as corn or wheat or stocks. The trade values used by experiment stations in making valuations are determined by studying the markets, and are in no sense theoretical. There are certain commercial articles that contain these valuable ingredients singly, or in combination, for instance, nitrate of soda, sulphate of ammonia or dried blood contain nitrogen, the German potash salts contain potash, and dissolved S. Car. rock or dissolved bone black contains phosphoric acid. The materials are sold to consumers at certain prices; they also have current commercial values which are quoted in business papers. From these actual selling prices and quotations the directors of experiment stations make up the so-called trade values.

The standard fertilizers, such as those mentioned above, are sampled, analyzed and the cost of a pound of the valuable ingredient thus determined. The actual quotations of retailers to consumers are also used. By studying the markets for a period of time, in this way the actual cost of nitrogen, etc., for cash at retail is arrived at with much greater accuracy than many interested parties are willing to admit.

Some objections are offered to this plan. It is claimed that the values used are theoretical, that they are fanciful. That there is no use to plan the prices of wheat and corn or bonds. It is asserted that these prices fluctuate to such an extent within the period of a single year, that the values determined are of no practical value. But we are very far from correct for other portions of the year. In 1885 the average monthly prices of nitrogen in everything, except nitrate of soda, varied but little; for instance the sulphate of ammonia from 3.8 to 15.2 cents, in ammonia from 13. to 13.7 cents, and in dried blood from 12.3 to 14.3 cents. The price of potash varied from 3.31 cents to 3.36 cents. Such slight changes would affect the ton price of a fertilizer very little. The year 1885 is a fair example of other years.

It is claimed that these prices are applied to our mixed fertilizers regardless of the quality of the materials. This claim is false so far as the potash and phosphoric acid are concerned, and also with regard to two of the three general forms of nitrogen. It is a key to the position that the value of a fertilizer comes from Chili saltpetre, sulphate of ammonia, or from animal and vegetable matter. A small amount of inferior material could be cunningly devised to be used and escape detection, but it will not be long before methods for detecting this will be perfected. The fact simply is, if a brand of fertilizer contains a large quantity of the valuable ingredients, it will show a high station valuation, but if the reverse is true the valuation will be low.

If farmers were experts in the matter of chemical analysis, such comparisons on the basis of money values would be unnecessary, but these valuations serve as an easy way of comparing the actual commercial value of the various brands sold. It should be remembered that the station valuations are not intended to represent the cost of the goods at the consumer's door, but in the market in ton lots for cash. The freight and cost of handling would be added on to these valuations in order to determine the cost of the fertilizer laid down where used.

Grange Deputies.

Appointments Made by Worthy Master Robie.

Worthy Master Robie has appointed the following Deputies for the year 1887:

Deputies at Large—J. O. Kyes, Wilton; F. W. Ritchie, Monroe; S. M. Blake, Old Orchard; B. A. Burr, Bangor; Hiram Cornforth, Oakland; R. P. Thompson, Jay; B. F. Carter, West Scarborough; William H. Moody, Liberty; John Burnham, Sherman Mills; J. A. Littlehale, East Union; Edwin Doore, East Dover; Joseph White, West Bath.

OFFICERS OF MAINE STATE GRANGE.

Androscoggin County—Lewis P. Bradford, Turner Centre.

Aroostook County—Benj. H. Towle, Sherman Mills; Charles E. Gilman, Houlton; Columbus Hayford, Maysville Centre.

Cumberland County—H. A. Hart, Deering; J. B. Hammond, New Gloucester; W. W. Andrews, Norway.

Franklin County—D. H. Knowlton, Farmington.

Hancock County—Alfred Smith, Small's Mills; Helen A. Cousens, Lamoine.

Kennebec County—A. C. True, Litchfield; S. C. Watson, Oakland.

Knox County—F. W. Smith, Rockland.

Lincoln County—Lore H. Ford, Whitefield.

Oxford County—S. R. Bradford, Hebron; Melville Gould, Hiram; A. W. Valentine, Bethel.

Penobscot County—J. L. Pierce, Burlington; W. B. Reed, Dixmont Centre; L. W. Jose, Dexter.

Piscataquis County—Lambert Sands, Sebec; Thomas Dagget, Foxcroft.

Sagadahoc County—C. P. Edgecomb Topsham.

Somerset County—Ansel Holway, Skowhegan; Stephen Merrill, Solon.

Waldo County—Arthur L. Brown.

Washington County—N. C. Brown, West Pembroke.

York County—George Boothby, Saco.

It is expected that each County Deputy will faithfully perform the duties enjoined as per circular to be mailed to him; that a proper division of labor will be made and each Master of a Grange will be duly advised of the proposed visit by the Deputy.

FREDERIC ROBIE,
Master State Grange.

F. A. ALLEN, Secretary.

Communications.

Reported for the Maine Farmer.

Among Vermont Farmers.

Mr. Editor: We failed in our notes of last week to say that at Wilmington, the farmers last season organized a stock company and built a creamery just outside the village, which is eminently satisfactory to its patrons. Their butter has averaged about 28 cents for the season; at present they are receiving much less cream than in summer and are churning but twice a week. Their butter is packed in small tubs of about 15 pounds, or five pound boxes, which are filled with half-pound bricks. The buildings are well arranged, the interior well kept, the furniture new and of the most approved pattern, and the resources of the surrounding country ample to produce cream to the full capacity of the establishment. The butter packages are tasteful and neat, and the butter of excellent color, neatly put up and of good flavor, but to our idea deficient in grain or texture. The business was in charge of a new man, the maker of the stock on hand being absent, so that much to our regret we were unable to satisfy ourselves as to the cause of the, to us, slightly salvey texture of the goods tested. On enquiry we found that next to no cotton seed is fed in the community, and so far as we could learn there is no ensilage fed by the patrons. We have little doubt but the fault is in the manufacturing. We were courteously received and our call was pleasant and interesting, and we have no doubt the parties interested will thank us for thus criticising when it is none of our business.

When we came down stairs Friday morning it was snowing like great guns, and our twenty miles ride to Townshend looked dubious, but Bro. Newton was equal to the emergency, and before we got five miles out our horse was down and we were treading snow with both feet, and digging the ice from our eyes in vain attempts to see through a Vermont snow storm and blizzard combined. But perseverance conquers, and after a seven hours drive we reached Williamsville, a hamlet on the Cross Gauge, 15 miles from starting point, where we gave it up and sitting quietly down in the station house (railroad, mind you,) we waited four hours for an overdue train, and at nine in the evening reached Townshend, where we were posted for an afternoon meeting. As we stepped off the train, County Deputy Pier took us by the hand and then took us to dinner, and the good people were waiting at the hall. As soon as our arrival was known the church bell was rung, and in a trice more than fifty earnest, intelligent men and women were together, and after a session of handshaking they patiently and cheerfully listened for an hour and a quarter, frequently applauding so vigorously that for the time being we forgot that we had had no supper. Here is a good, strong Grange, and a wealthy and intelligent people. It is a pretty village, and is surrounded by a well cultivated country. The old, reliable Townshend Academy, chartered more than 60 years ago, is still educating the boys and girls of the community, and exerting its salutary influence upon all the surrounding country. Here Prof. Lyford, a life long friend of ours and a most worthy neighbor, commenced his career as a high school teacher, and it was a real pleasure to hear the universal testimony as to his ability, efficiency and success. We were pained to notice that time Prof. Lyford has been well and favorably known as one of the Faculty at Colby University. No old resident of Mt. Vernon is surprised at his success. His nerve and earnestness were born with him, and all he had to do was to keep right on.

The scenery up the Narrow Guage must be both grand and lovely in summer, but with a thick snow storm, a cold car and only a late train the interest in the outlook was somewhat abated. Saturday morning told us by telephone that the train for that morning was off, but soon we succeeded in getting on our way and at noon were at Londonderry for the next appointment. The plow got there and so did we, and at the Baptist church we met the people in goodly numbers. When on being called to order by Bro. Dyder we had a chosen remarks, Rev. Mr. Fuller, the pastor, offered prayer. The Baptist choir rendered appropriate and excellent music, and a good meeting we enjoyed. It is one of the live churches, and to our own knowledge one good preacher, Bro. Fuller, to whom we had the pleasure of listening on the Sabbath. Several mills, a plane stock manufactory and other industries also, are we have reason to know, a first-class hotel. At the close of the meeting Bro. Davis took us up the valley two miles to his large farm, where we fully appreciated the blessing of kind friends and a good home over the Sabbath. So ends the first week of work in the Green Mountain State, for the elevation of agriculture and the agriculturist. Yours,

J. L. B.

Advancement in the Grange.

The metal upon which the State Grange brought down its gavel this year, has given forth the true ring at last, the sound which intelligent Grangers have long waited to hear. The action of the session in the enactment in every direction, but most particularly in the path towards that intellectual highway, for which every organization should be training its soldiers to march, has been unmistakable and well drilled, equipped and uniformed, the ensuing year would present a period of surprising progress toward that higher cultivation of the intellect which the spirit of the age is demanding. Reading better books, thinking better thoughts, writing better articles is the order of the day.

A wave of better impulses is sweeping over us. Shall we benefit ourselves therefrom, is the all important question before the Grangers to-day. Of course there can be but one answer, and that is universal throughout the length and breadth of our land. The fruit is ripe, and as gleaners in the harvest field of knowledge, our work must now begin, and it behooves those who stand in the foremost ranks of Grangers, to make an immediate and decisive move in regard to placing educational advantages within the reach of every subordinate Grange in the State of Maine. There is to be found in every Grange a nucleus about which to build grand hopes for its future. Many there are who are anxious to overcome the nothingness of the present system, and to establish their respective Granges on a more substantial basis. They realize that a new departure is necessitated, and that it must be immediate in order to be effective.

Too many patrons feel that it is late in life for them to make an effort towards a bookish education. I am fearful that just here is where we make our mistake. For our children's sake, if not for our own, should we be fully aroused. A writer in one of our most popular magazines has lately said, "That if the parents of to-day only advance far enough in literature to cut awkward and ludicrous blunders on the front door-step of culture, our children would stand some better chance of entering the portals, than as though the fathers and mothers had never come out of the woods at all." Don't for a moment suppose that I wouldn't enjoy tweaking the nose of this insolent literary pretender, yet, I am prone to believe that truths thus forced upon us are sometimes the very incentives needed to drive us to action. We have for so long a time lain dormant so far as educational activity for ourselves is concerned, that I must admit that the way books not altogether bright. It is not for lack of intelligence, it is for lack of courage that we patrons forbear to know the much there is to learn about that which constitutes our homes, our farms, our lives. Some States have already adopted a regular course of reading, something after the Chautauquan plan, which gives a unity of action for the Granges, which is of itself a tower of strength to any order.

By knowing that all our brothers and sisters were pursuing the same line of thought and work with ourselves, there would be created a spirit of wholesome rivalry amongst us, that in beneficial and lasting results, would far surpass any effort made by Granges heretofore. The lack of interest that so many Granges confess to possess, is in a great degree owing to the fact that they have nothing to do. Their homes are built and paid for, finished and furnished. They are awaiting further instructions. It is an old adage, "that an idle mind is Satan's workshop," if this be true of an idle mind, may it not also be true of an idle Grange? Then let those with whom the duty lies of finishing what they have so well begun, take heed of the signs, and put themselves on record yet further in the interest of the farmers of Maine, and of mankind in general.

Belfast. H. L. B.

For the Maine Farmer.

Grange Notes.

It is the duty of Deputies to visit each Grange in their jurisdiction once a year at least, and inspect the work, records and efficiency of the methods employed, and report the same in full to the State Master.

The towns of China and Belgrade in this county, need good Granges planted and maintained in them. A live brother writes: "Preach coöperation to the members of the Order. It is the best and most attractive religion that can be proclaimed to them. When I see what some of the State Granges, not a quarter as large as ours are doing in this direction, I feel ashamed of our work."

One good, live Deputy is worth more than half a dozen prosy Lecturers. What is needed is good live Deputies.

The Executive Committee of the Connecticut State Grange, held a two day's meeting at the capitol, Hartford, Wednesday and Thursday, 12th and 13th. About 50 delegates, representing the different Granges were present. The principal business was making trade arrangements for the present year.

The Maine State Grange Executive Committee held a session at Hotel North in this city, Tuesday and Wednesday of last week, at which important business for the good of the Order was transacted, which we give an outline of elsewhere.

There seems to be a disposition evinced by one of the members of the Order to attack Bros. Ham and Hunter, two of the best and most faithful workers, and most efficient officers this, or any other State Grange has, or ever had. With the record this member has as an officer in his own Grange and in the State Grange, if he can afford to beat his silly brains out in this way, we are willing.

Every Grange should send in a strong petition to have such a dog law passed at this session of the legislature, that shall be in the best interest of sheep husbandry.

It should be remembered that it is well directed labor that makes an individual or a community financially or morally, or consequently strong. It is well directed effort that will make a Grange strong and healthy.

This is the harvest time for Granges in their work. In the good State of Maine are hundreds of honest souls in every Grange-working time, and they are moved to building up and strengthening our beloved order, in endeavoring to enthuse new life and vigor to all its parts, in trying to awaken the slumbering energies of dormant members. Earnest Granges, a labor of love, a labor of self sacrifice too often unseen and unappreciated by the great world. Such are the nursing fathers and mothers in the Grange world.

Every Grange should watch closely the course and the action of his Representative and Senators in Legislature, and prompt them on every issue of importance to the great agricultural interests.

There is cheering news from all Grange meetings, that a renewed interest is opening broad cast over the State and the Nation.

The welfare of the Order depends upon the strictest observance of the rules and forms of our organization. No Grange should suspend or omit any part of them. The closest observance of the forms they will be liked when understood. Masters should constantly impress upon their Granges the importance of the secrecy of the Order, and of living close up to the obligations.

For the Maine Farmer.

On Keeping up the Fertility of the Farm.

To make the farm productive and increase its fertility, requires skill and a knowledge of the nature of the soil; without any doubt plenty of manure or fertilizing material of some sort is the basis of all good farming. Leland says make feed and feed sustaining, but after you have fed out about all that grows on the farm and there is yet a lack of manure, how is this deficiency to be supplied is a question that concerns us all as farmers. Some will say buy these concentrated fertilizers that are in the market and apply to the soil, but the great trouble with the average farmer is that he does not have money to buy with, he may manage to buy a few hundred pounds of guano under his corn or potatoes but he cannot go into the extras.

Mr. Atherton writes that he is going to try and make the farm self sustaining, and that is commendable and is satisfied with the results, he is going to have a thanksgiving. I am inclined to think that the thanksgiving time with the most of us, will be like the millennium, some unknown time in the future. Some will increase the capacity of their farms by feeding liberally of provender, but this is a costly way of bringing up a farm, at present prices of what we ingest of kind friends and a good home over the Sabbath. So ends the first week of work in the Green Mountain State, for the elevation of agriculture and the agriculturist. Yours,

J. L. B.

For the Maine Farmer.

Advancement in the Grange.

The metal upon which the State Grange brought down its gavel this year, has given forth the true ring at last, the sound which intelligent Grangers have long waited to hear. The action of the session in the enactment in every direction, but most particularly in the path towards that intellectual highway, for which every organization should be training its soldiers to march, has been unmistakable and well drilled, equipped and uniformed, the ensuing year would present a period of surprising progress toward that higher cultivation of the intellect which the spirit of the age is demanding. Reading better books, thinking better thoughts, writing better articles is the order of the day.

A wave of better impulses is sweeping over us. Shall we benefit ourselves therefrom, is the all important question before the Grangers to-day. Of course there can be but one answer, and that is universal throughout the length and breadth of our land. The fruit is ripe, and as gleaners in the harvest field of knowledge, our work must now begin, and it behooves those who stand in the foremost ranks of Grangers, to make an immediate and decisive move in regard to placing educational advantages within the reach of every subordinate Grange in the State of Maine. There is to be found in every Grange a nucleus about which to build grand hopes for its future. Many there are who are anxious to overcome the nothingness of the present system, and to establish their respective Granges on a more substantial basis. They realize that a new departure is necessitated, and that it must be immediate in order to be effective.

Too many patrons feel that it is late in life for them to make an effort towards a bookish education. I am fearful that just here is where we make our mistake. For our children's sake, if not for our own, should we be fully aroused. A writer in one of our most popular magazines has lately said, "That if the parents of to-day only advance far enough in literature to cut awkward and ludicrous blunders on the front door-step of culture, our children would stand some better chance of entering the portals, than as though the fathers and mothers had never come out of the woods at all." Don't for a moment suppose that I wouldn't enjoy tweaking the nose of this insolent literary pretender, yet, I am prone to believe that truths thus forced upon us are sometimes the very incentives needed to drive us to action. We have for so long a time lain dormant so far as educational activity for ourselves is concerned, that I must admit that the way books not altogether bright. It is not for lack of intelligence, it is for lack of courage that we patrons forbear to know the much there is to learn about that which constitutes our homes, our farms, our lives. Some States have already adopted a regular course of reading, something after the Chautauquan plan, which gives a unity of action for the Granges, which is of itself a tower of strength to any order.

By knowing that all our brothers and sisters were pursuing the same line of thought and work with ourselves, there would be created a spirit of wholesome rivalry amongst us, that in beneficial and lasting results, would far surpass any effort made by Granges heretofore. The lack of interest that so many Granges confess to possess, is in a great degree owing to the fact that they have nothing to do. Their homes are built and paid for, finished and furnished. They are awaiting further instructions. It is an old adage, "that an idle mind is Satan's workshop," if this be true of an idle mind, may it not also be true of an idle Grange? Then let those with whom the duty lies of finishing what they have so well begun, take heed of the signs, and put themselves on record yet further in the interest of the farmers of Maine, and of mankind in general.

Belfast. H. L. B.

For the Maine Farmer.

The Apple Maggot.

Mr. Editor: I have seen some inquiring of the readers of the *Maine Farmer* about the works of the apple maggot, and I will give a bit of experience of mine entirely accidental. The two past seasons, have pastured my orchard with sheep, geese and hens. I had quite an amount of fall fruit, mostly sweet apples, lying on the ground with but feed, except what I wanted for table use, both seasons. I noticed all these creatures eat the sweet apples first—will say that I have not seen an apple maggot this season, nor did I the scarcely one of those little light colored millers flying among my trees while in blossom, as I had seen in years past. I came to the conclusion that the windfalls could all be fed, or otherwise used before the maggot left the apple, that they could be held in check if not entirely destroyed. In answer to the inquiry about the Blue Pearmain, will say that I have a few and get that variety, but have never seen an apple maggot in one of them. The apple is a sharp sour, and called a good apple, but with me the tree is a shy bearer. The Baldwin with me is the most profitable apple to raise, and the English Russet next, only the latter has to be packed in barrels, or otherwise kept from the air, or they wilt; that does not hurt their keeping qualities, but injures the sale of them. Now, if all the windfalls can be fed, the winter fruit be picked and taken out of the orchard, and what is left on the ground can be fed to something, I cannot see much excuse for the little rascals unless some of them leave the apple before it is taken from the tree. Yours,

St. Albans. H. A. LUCAS.

For the Maine Farmer.

Turner Center Creamery.

At the annual meeting of Turner Center Dairying Association, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year. Directors, Henry Turner, S. W. Cary, N. W. Adams. Treasurer, L. P. Bradford. Secretary, Geo. B. Bradford. The following are some of the most important items in the Director's report of the transactions of the company for the past year. A dividend of six per cent. was declared on the stock of the company.

No. inches cream collected,	227,413
" " sold,	111,600
" " made into butter,	111,600
No. lbs. butter made,	2.03
Cost per lb. butter per lb. butter,	$1,590.29
Cost for collecting cream for the year,	$393.5
" " making butter for year,	$.0126
Cost per lb. butter for collecting cream,	$.00709
" " " labor in factory,	$.00709
" " " collecting and making,	$.02154
Average price per lb. received for butter sold,	$.2535
" " paid patrons per lb.,	$.226
" " inch,	$.1056
Total expense per lb.,	$.02578
Received for butter sold,	$28,352.40
Buttermilk sold,	$551.20
Cream sold.	$40.44

For the Maine Farmer.

Some Kennebec Herefords.

Mr. Gilbert Underwood, proprietor of the "Hereford Home Stock Farm," Fayette, and as successor in the business to his father, Hon. J. H. Underwood, is the oldest breeder of Hereford stock in New England, he having started a herd in 1853. The herd for twenty years past has ranged from 15 to 35 head. Mr. U. now has a herd of 33 pure bred animals. One bull, 4 years, weight 1800 pounds, and one 3 years old, weight 1820 pounds, have been worked during the past year. He also has two yearling bulls and eight bull calves, five of which will be old enough for service the coming season. He has twelve cows, only two of which are more than 8 years old, six heifers and three heifer calves. He has male animals for sale, but no cows or heifers.

The cow August Queen, sired by Fortune, 2080 (5922), bred and owned by J. S. Haines, Colony, Kansas, has been exhibited twice at the Maine State Fair, and once at the Eastern State Fair, taking a first premium each time. One of the best 3-years-old heifers, an exceptionally fine looking animal, girths plump 6 feet, 5 inches. The most of the famous "white-faced steers," raised in northern Kennebec, and not a few of those raised in Somerset and Franklin counties for the last quarter of a century, may be traced to this herd.

A. G. Underwood, on the old Underwood homestead where his father settled some 75 years since, has a herd of thirteen pure bred animals consisting of five cows, the largest of which measure 7 feet when in full flesh; one 25 mos. old heifer, 6 feet in the line, one heifer calf, one 3-years-old, and two yearling bulls, and three bull calves. All the young stock was sired by imported animals. The yearling bull Grover Cleveland, in the opinion of good judges, is among the best of his age in the country. Cows and heifers as well as bulls are for sale from this herd. C. S. A.

For the Maine Farmer.

College Farming Reviewed.

In *Maine Farmer* Dec. 9th, editorially, an an interesting statement appears showing the method and expense of renovating a 20 acre field of clay loam soil on the College farm. Purchased fertilizers only were used in dressing the land. Cost of fertilizers added to the expense of cultivating the land and growing the crops for four years made a total outlay of $1438.95. The account with the field stands:

Dr.

To commercial fertilizers, and expenses of cultivation and securing crops.....	$1438.90
810 bushels oats, at $.40	$324 00
20 tons straw, (est.) at $3.....	60 00
21 bushels barley, at $.90..	19 00
1 ton barley straw, (est.).....	5 00
92 tons hay, at $10.....	920 00
	$1319.60
Balance against field,	$119.35

We are told that "the result of the treatment of this field is quite satisfactory, and it shows the practicability of employing purchased fertilizers in the renovation of run out lands. If such work can be made to bring a profit on the college farm, it certainly can be done on like good soils elsewhere. As an illustrative lesson in farming in connection in the most valuable one, and may well be studied by practical farmers as well as by students in agriculture."

I agree with the writer that the attempt to renovate run out lands by the use of commercial fertilizers, as shown by results on the brick-yard field on the College farm, presents lessons worthy of careful study by all practical farmers, and will be a warning to avoid the error of expending from $35 to $40 per acre for commercial fertilizers in the attempt to renovate run out lands. H. L. LELAND.

For the Maine Farmer.

Good Stock.

W. P. Haskell, Gray, has a good team consisting of a pair grade Durham oxen 8½ feet, or better, in the line, good for beef or work; a very nice pair; and a nice pair of grade Herefords, something more than 7 feet.

A. G. Thurlow, well known at both State and county shows as one of the best oxteamsters in the State; has a herd of 30 head of cattle, sired by a nice pure bred Holstein bull, 3 years old in December, that weighs better than 1800 lbs.; an extra stock animal. He has 12 cows, selling the milk to the Augusta factory. He has 12 head of young stock, one-half Holstein, mostly heifers; a very nice lot of young cattle.

J. M. Wing, Wayne, has a pair of 5-year-old oxen, grade Durham, raised on his farm, very nearly 8½ feet, a good pair, that have done the farm work for two years or more. Mr. W. has a very nice lot of grade Durham calves, mostly two heifers, all very nearly the same shade of dark red, no white except stars in the foreheads of one or two pairs of steers. They average about 4½ feet in the line. A.

For the Maine Farmer.

The Good Granger.

BY AN OLD FOGY.

The good granger is generally well *corned*. He raises his own corn, but seldom has any on hand except *warts* used every day, but has plenty of corn in the crib sometimes corn on the brain. He sings no song so sweet as "the yellow, yellow corn." In fact it is *amazing* what chinks of corn some grangers have, and what long ears they have, a husky voice, large ears, and some are subject to spindle fever. The good and well corned granger can dress his wife in corn cob colored silks, if she is not already round to corn cob shape. But corn crop seems ailing the good granger gives it *hills* remedy in hoe handle doses, and rubs it in with a cultivator. It is said by our best grangers that with a good soil, season and cultivation, that 40

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Jan. 27, 1887.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

$2.00 IN ADVANCE; OR $2.50 IF NOT PAID WITHIN ONE YEAR OF DATE OF SUBSCRIPTION.

☞All payments made by subscribers will be credited on the yellow slips attached to their papers. The printed date, in connection with the subscriber's name, will show the time to which he has paid, and will constitute, in all cases, a valid receipt for money remitted by him.

☞A subscriber desiring to change his post office direction, or to discontinue his paper must communicate to us the *name of the office to which it has previously been sent*, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request.

☞Postage free to all subscribers.

Collectors' Notices.

J. W. KELLOGG will call upon our subscribers in Washington county during January and February.

C. S. ATWOOD will call upon our subscribers in York county during January and February.

Committee on Agriculture

Will meet at Room No. 18, on Wednesdays, at 2 o'clock P. M., until further notice.

GEORGE FINEY, } Chairmen.
I. C. LIBBY,
tf

The special committee appointed to examine the accounts of State Treasurer Burleigh, has found, just as the public expected, everything correct.

Petitions and bills for private or special legislation at Augusta will only be received up to next Monday. All received after that date will be given to the next Legislature.

The Executive Committee of the State Grange have decided to engage National Lecturer Mortimer Whitehead for Grange work in the State during two weeks in March, if possible.

An act introduced into the Legislature concerning the burial of soldiers, provides that the State shall bury soldiers whose estate is not sufficient to pay the expenses of burial, if the sum does not exceed $35. The cemetery shall not be that employed for paupers.

Plumed Knight, the well known trotting horse recently sold by Col. Morrill of Dexter, to Mr. J. H. Davis, made his first appearance on the road in Boston, Saturday. He is a great sleigh horse and made things uncomfortably warm for those who attempted to pass him. Plumed Knight has made a mile in private in 2.27.

Died in Brunswick, on Wednesday last, Mr. Lewis Simpson, aged 76 years. Mr. Simpson was one of the most prosperous and skillful farmers in the town. He had been an officer and active member of the Sagadahoc Agricultural and Horticultural Society, from its organization, and his usual fine display of farm products will be missed at their future exhibitions, as he leaves no male descendants.

On Friday, the Maine Senate and House took a recess of a few minutes to pay their respects to Ex-Vice President, Hannibal Hamlin. The venerable gentleman was as lively as a cricket physically and mentally, and cracked jokes and resurrected the auld lang syne with great good cheer. Everybody gave Mr. Hamlin a hearty shake until his hands ached with hospitality.

The health bill, now before the legislature, makes it obligatory upon municipal officers to appoint local boards of health to serve three years; any local board may appoint a health officer who shall be jointly the adviser and executive officer of the board; it shall be the duty of the health officer to report at least once in each year to the State Board. He shall also make special reports when required to do so by the State Board. Measures to be taken where contageous diseases prevail are presented at length. The bill is quite lengthy, containing thirty sections.

The announcement of the Nonesuch Poultry Yards, Readfield, in this county, found elsewhere in these columns, should attract the attention of all those who desire the purest strains of the best breeds. Our close relations with Dr. Twitchell shall not prevent us from saying that all those who patronize him will be sure of square treatment and getting precisely what they bargain for. No breeder of fowl in this State has captured so many prizes at State and other fairs as Dr. Twitchell, and his sales, which were at one time local, have extended to all parts of the country. The *Lowell*, (Mass.) *Courier*, in reporting the late poultry exhibition in that city, has the following notice of Maine stock:

"One of the handsomest exhibitions was made by G. M. Twitchell, Readfield, Maine, with his White Plymouth Rock chicks."

The annual report of the Massachusetts State Board of Lunacy and Charity, just issued, shows the number of immigrants arriving by water in Massachusetts during the year ending September 30, 1886, to be 28,512, against 19,908 during the preceding year. The whole number of State paupers supported, or in some way aided from the State treasury was 22,060. The number of indoor poor of the cities and towns was nearly 12,000 in the year, of whom about 3500 are insane persons. These are all provided for in 250 establishments of a total valuation of $8,660,000. The statistics of inmates in the various State institutions, show the aggregate of 5,244, showing an increase of 654 in eight years, which is wholly due to the increase of insane and idiotic persons. Maine does not present so bad a showing, but there can be no doubt that insanity is on the increase here.

A railroad mass meeting at Presque Isle., was well attended on Saturday, despite the storm and horrible roads. Rev. G. M. Parks was chairman, and E. Wiggin and C. P. Allen, secretaries. A committee on resolutions was appointed, with Hon. E. E. Parkhurst as chairman, also a finance committee, with G. H. Freeman as chairman. The report of the committee on resolutions was strong and emphatic, declaring an earnest purpose to secure a direct line. While fully appreciating all the benefits derived from the New Brunswick Railway, it cannot shorten its line and do for the people what a short line can well do; heartily endorsing the course of the *Aroostook Herald*; earnestly requesting the Aroostook delegation to use their best efforts to secure a charter for the Northern Maine Railroad, and pledging their best efforts if a charter is granted to secure the construction of the road at the earliest possible moment. A deep and earnest determination was manifest and a disposition to brook no opposition to their wishes.

The Railroad Commissioners have made their annual report, which contains many valuable suggestions. They say that notwithstanding railroad companies can be organized under the general provisions of the constitution, particular laws will continue to ask the legislature to grant special charters for such purposes, and they think it is hardly fair and just to place the restrictions required by the provisions of the statutes upon those who in good faith desire to build a railroad, and to allow others to simply apply to the Legislature for a special act or charter which may, if granted, allow them without expense, limitations or restrictions, to occupy, or threaten to occupy, substantially, the same territory, and thus compel the first mentioned parties to abandon their enterprise or purchase the right acquired by the other party through the special act aforesaid. In view of the danger of grade crossings, the Commissioners suggest an amendment to the laws that would prevent a highway, farm road or street from being laid across a railroad without consent of the Commissioners, they to fix the manner and condition of such crossing and apportion the expense thereof equitably. They also recommend the enactment of a law requiring every railroad company in the State, that has trains passing over any part of its line by night, to place safety switches and lights of an improved sort at every siding where such trains pass without stopping, etc. The Commissioners sound a note of alarm concerning prevailing increase in the weight of locomotive engines out of all proportion to the superstructure of our railroads. The report states that the entire mileage of steam and horse railways in the State is 1,157.68, of which the Maine Central operates, of its own and leased branch lines, 531.22 miles, and the Bangor and Piscataquis 77 miles.

Charge Against the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture.

Early in the present session of the legislature, an order, by request of Hall C. Burleigh of Vassalboro, was prepared by Senator Heath of Kennebec, and by him presented in the Senate, requiring that the Committee on Agriculture be "ordered to inquire into the expediency of providing that the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture be appointed by the Governor, instead of being elected by the Board, as now provided." This was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and a hearing on the matter was arranged for Wednesday afternoon, January 19, in the office of the Secretary of the Board at the State House. At the appointed hour the committee assembled, and with them Mr. Burleigh and an array of witnesses drawn by him for the purpose all the way from Bangor to Portland. Mr. Burleigh was called upon to open the case, which he did in the form of a most malicious and intentionally abusive attack upon the integrity and character of Mr. Gilbert, as shown in the official work he has been called upon to perform and charging him with manipulating elections in cases of the election of members of the Board, dishonestly using money appropriated for the work of the Board to perpetuate himself in office, and alleging criminal neglect in duties prescribed by law in connection with the cattle disease at the College Farm, all of which were matters entirely irrelevant to the provisions of the order under consideration by the committee.

Mr. Gilbert met these charges as far as presented by testimony, by proving them false in every particular by Mr. Burleigh's own witnesses, and it was further shown by Mr. Gowell, the Superintendent of the College Farm, who had charge of the stock at the time of the breaking out of the disease, that Mr. Gilbert acted promptly and faithfully in the matter. This statement was corroborated by Dr. Bailey of the Commission. Mr. Gowell also further stated that everything that was known about the presence of the disease, its breaking out, and the action of the Commissioners individually and collectively had been given to the public, freely and fully.

The charges of manipulating elections and of dishonest use of money were not alluded to save in the opening, but Mr. Gilbert claimed the privilege of showing to the committee his methods by which not a cent is drawn from the treasury until after its expenditure, and thereon an itemized voucher receipted by the party to whom it is due, thus making it impossible to divert money into improper uses.

The committee were unanimous in their conclusion that every charge was false. The subject was tabled to be acted upon at the next meeting of the committee, which occurred yesterday afternoon. On assembling; the matter was taken from the table and it was voted unanimously that legislation is inexpedient.

Thus ends this most criminal attack made solely on personal and malicious motives on one of the most faithful and efficient officials in the State, and who by his coolness, deliberate action, and staunch adherence to the law, has been the means, with others of his associates, of saving unmeasured thousands to the State in promptly and efficiently surrounding these outbreaks of contagious diseases in our State, and effectually holding them at bay. All this has been done, too, at a surprisingly small cost to the State. Such efficiency is worthy of the widest endorsement.

State Pomological Society.

The meeting of the Maine State Pomological Society at Farmington next week, promises to be one of the best that the Society has ever held. The local committee having the arrangements in hand, consisting of Mr. Knowlton, the Treasurer Mr. Hobbs, Mr. Leland and Mr. E. A. Hall, Secretary of the Franklin County Agricultural Society, have been constant in their efforts to develop an interest among the fruit growers of that good fruit growing section of the State, which will undoubtedly result in a most successful meeting. The public meetings will be held in Music Hall, and arrangements have also been made whereby Patrons' Hall will be open for the purpose of serving a picnic dinner to all who may wish. So far as may be stated at this somewhat early date, the following papers will be presented at the meeting—the full programme of the same will be published and distributed in a few days, and possibly other subjects and names may be included:

Address of welcome, by Hon. J. G. Hoyt, Farmington.

Annual address of the President, Charles S. Pope, Manchester.

A letter of reminiscences, Calvin Chamberlain, Foxcroft.

What are the chief defects in our present system of orchard management? Leander H. Blossom, Turner Centre.

Influence of flowers in the home, Mrs. Addie S. B. Westen.

Fruits in Aroostook county, E. W. Merritt, Houlton.

Floriculture, Mrs. Sarah B. Purington, Farmington.

What shall we do to increase the profits of fruit culture in Maine? Henry A. Sprague, Charlotte.

Value of a knowledge of the natural sciences to the farmer, Mr. C. W. Keyes, Farmington.

How I have protected my orchard from the ravages of mice and borers, S. R. Leland, Farmington.

Will the present outlook warrant the encouragement of fruit growing in Maine? Hon. Rufus Prince, Turner.

Poem, C. A. Mace, Readfield.

Papers are also to be presented by P. Whittier, Chesterville, W. P. Atherton, Hallowell, and D. H. Knowlton, Farmington, but their subjects have not yet been announced.

It has been before stated, the Maine Central Railroad will issue round trip tickets to Farmington and return at one fare the round trip, to be on sale at the stations of the road on Tuesday, Feb. 1st, good to return up to and including Feb. 7th. The Sandy River Railroad will sell excursion tickets at the following rates, viz: Phillips to Farmington and return, $1.00; Strong to Farmington and return, 60c.

An important hearing was had on Monday evening, before the legislative committee on finance in behalf of the Maine Eye and Ear Infirmary at Portland, an institution which is doing a blessed and benevolent work, in dealing with the misfortunes of those afflicted with eye and ear troubles, and in the majority of cases with no expense to the patient. Payson Tucker, Esq., is one of the leaders and sustainers of this enterprise. The committee voted to recommend an appropriation by the State of $5000.

FARMER'S MEETING AT READFIELD. Wednesday evening, Feb. 2d, commencing at 7 o'clock, W. B. Kendall, Esq., of Bowdoinham, is engaged to address the citizens of Readfield, at the vestry in Readfield. Subject, "Renovation of worn out soils, and the use and manufacture of fertilizers." All are invited to attend. This meeting, which is free to all, is arranged by the Grange, which contemplates holding occasional public meetings through the winter.

The "Leader" reversible self adjusting broiler and toaster, one of the most useful household appliances, is manufactured and sold by Geo. Tyler & Co., 43 South Market St., Boston. Every housekeeper who cooks steak or toasts bread should try one. The steak is placed directly to the fire, is quickly seared, and the juices are mostly retained. Price for No 1, (6x9 inches) 50 cts.; No. 2, (6x13 inches) 60 cts.

We have received, with the compliments of its author, Hon. T. R. Simonton, a very interesting work, elaborately illustrated, entitled "Picturesque Camden." The work is well written, and describes in a graphic manner the charming scenery of Camden and vicinity, including—

"High mountains of Penobscot bay,
Against whose feet doth beat the sea."

The Secretary of State yesterday furnished the legislature with the items of expenditures of the fishery department of the State, for the past four years, 1883-4-5-6, as follows: 1883, $7,224.81; 1884, $7,344.07; 1885, $7,497.07; 1886, $7,574.31. Included in this are the payments for wardens' services, the protection and propagation of fish, expenses of commissioners, etc.

Representatives of the creameries of Maine met at Auburn Saturday, to form an association to be called the State Creamery Association. Henry Turner, J. W. Maxwell of Webster, and E. A. True of Poland, were appointed a committee to frame a constitution. The purpose is to promote the interests of creameries and suppress the sales of oleomargarine.

Maine Press Association.

The gathering together of the men who use the pen, scissors and paste-brush, is always an occasion of interest to those who gather in Augusta during the legislative session. The 34th annual session of the association met in the Senate chamber, Thursday evening, President Howard Owen presiding, who welcomed the members in a brief address. The several standing committees reported, as well as the county historians.

Mr. Elwell, of the Committee on Summer Excursions, outlined several railroad routes.

Dr. Lapham, of the Committee on Necrology, presented his report. Two members of the association, Edmund S. Hoyt, J. F. Ferris, Portland, have died during the year. Dr. Lapham read brief but comprehensive obituary notices of the late proprietors of the *Waterville Mail*, Mr. Daniel R. Wing and Mr. Ephraim Maxim.

The following new members were received by vote: Charles B. Haskell, *Advertiser*, Pittsfield; James C. Chilcott, *American*, Ellsworth; E. N. Carver, *Telephone*, Canton; Anna Sargent Hunt, *Home Mission Echo*, Augusta; C. L. McCleery, Farmington; Geo. F. Patch, *Home Farm*, Augusta; Arthur W. Hall, *Sentinel*, Waterville; Charles G. Wing, *Mail*, Waterville.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—Howard Owen, Augusta.
Vice Presidents—Samuel L. Miller, Waldoboro; Samuel T. Pickard, Portland; Joseph O. Smith, Skowhegan.
Secretary—Joseph Wood, Bar Harbor.
Treasurer—W. B. Lapham, Augusta.
Corresponding Secretary—George H. Watkins, Portland.

The thanks of the association were tendered to Mr. Homan for his services as Treasurer, he declining to serve longer.

The business meeting was continued Friday forenoon in the Judiciary Room. For their annual summer excursion, the committee selected the Burlington, Vermont, and Lake Champlain route, and the following committee were appointed to make arrangements for the same: A. E. Chase, M. N. Rich, Geo. H. Gilman.

The association selected Maj. H. A. Shorey of Bridgton, essayist for the ensuing year, and Anna Sargent Hunt, Augusta, as poet.

County historians were appointed as follows:

Androscoggin—Nelson Dingley, Jr., Lewiston.
Aroostook—Geo. H. Gilman, Houlton.
Cumberland—Brown Thurston, Portland.
Franklin—D. H. Knowlton, Farmington.
Hancock—Joseph Wood, Bar Harbor.
Kennebec—Wm. B. Lapham, Augusta.
Knox—T. R. Simonton, Camden.
Lincoln—Samuel L. Miller, Waldoboro.
Oxford—Arthur E. Forbes, Paris.
Penobscot—Frank K. Smith, Bangor.
Piscataquis and Somerset—J. O. Smith, Skowhegan.
Sagadahoc—K. M. Dunbar, Damariscotta.
Waldo—Chas. A. Pilsbury, Belfast.
Washington—Geo. W. Drisko, Machias.
York—E. H. Elwell, Portland.

The literary exercises were held in the Senate chamber, Friday afternoon, and that hour found a brilliant audience of ladies and gentlemen, including the members of the organization, assembled, prepared for the treat. Hon. Hannibal Hamlin occupied a seat in the front row, a little to the left of the President. Howard Owen, the society's President, called to order and introduced the essayist of the afternoon, Albro E. Chase, Esq., of Portland, who presented a most interesting and instructive essay on "William Caxton," the first English printer, who flourished in England in the fourteenth century. A glowing description of Caxton's early life, his apprenticeship and career that followed, was given. His printing office and its primitive equipments were accurately pictured. The first book that Caxton printed was entitled "the Game and Play of Chess," and some 65 works were issued from his press. He continued to follow the printing business until fourscore years of age, when one day death came upon him and the doors of his office were closed. Mr. Chase received hearty applause for his able historical paper, really a true essay. The racy part of the entertainment was reserved for the poem by Mr. Geo. A. Quimby, widely known and admired as "Our George" of the *Belfast Journal*. The President introduced the poet as the brightest, raciest and wittiest writer on the press of Maine. The poet raised the risibles of the audience from the very introduction, indulging like all poets in the largest possible poetic license. Wit and humor drop from his tongue as naturally as water from a melting icicle, and the great naturalness of his wit caused it to be received with great favor. We know our readers will thank us for publishing the poem entire:

OUR OLD TIME JOURNALISTS.

My Ideas of Them, and Their Opinion of Me.

AN EXPLANATION.

That "Poets are born, not made," men always have believed
'Till society proved they've been deceived—
Poetry to it, is just like any trade,
Is not "divine afflatus," but is merely made.
A member's seized upon, by fitness not selected,
And finds himself unanimously elected.
He picks him out, and on the roll he runs it,
It has made and branded him a poet.
In vain does he decline, protest he is not fit,
He's simply told he must—and he submits.
Like the man whose name was somewhat fretful wife,
By sudden illness was deprived of life.
The afflicted husband met an old time friend,
Who tendered sympathy, at her untimely end.
"Was she ill long, do tell me?" he said he,
"Resigned! why bless your soul she had to be."
My position stated, I'll now proceed
The Association poem to read.

In those "good old times," that we hear about,
In our Grandfather's days of long ago;
When to travel to where it takes a day,
Is usually took a week or so.

When foot-stoves always were taken to church,
And one's breath froze on to the sheets, 'twas said,
And the snow blew in through the window cracks,
And piled in drifts on the foot of the bed;

When the telegraph wire was all unknown,
And information and amusement were unborn;
And New England rum was cheap and pure,
And most of the bread was made from corn;

In those "good old times"—thank God now past,
The newspaper had a harder chance
Than our bright and newsy sheets of to-day,
With "terms two dollars," and pay in advance.

With the mails arriving but once a week,
To advance the times, it was made to try,
And they couldn't then, when badly pushed,
Fill a column up with a telegraph lie.

A steamboat explosion they never had,
No base ball league, with the games it plays,
No Salvation Army, no Brooklyn bridge,
And no Tanner fasted for forty days.

No John L. Sullivan had they then,
No P. T. Barnum, of circus fame,
And like angel's visits it must have seemed,
So seldom the real sea serpent came.

The type it looked as if whittled by hand,
And the press was run by a "one man power,"
And if he was lucky, and nothing "bust,"
He'd run off a hundred or two in an hour.

One man had to manage the whole concern,
Like the Admiral grand in Pinafore.
"He dusted the office and swept the floor,"
Attended to everything else—and more.

Was editor, devil and typo too.
Did all the work and on errands run,
And stepped in the balance of time on hand
By collecting bills—with a loaded gun.

He wasn't particular what he got,
Fish, flesh or fowl, he would take for his pay.
Potatoes and cord-wood, corn or beans,
Pumpkins and turnips, groceries or hay.

A versatile man was the editor then,
Whatever the topic, he "took in" to view it.
Politics, science, religion, or what,
And furthermore he must be a "poet."

For often an old subscriber would come,
Wearing a weed and a look of deep grief,
And want a touching obituary,
Ending in verses, and not too brief.

And the editor then, would seize his pen,
And curl his heels underneath his chair,
And vacantly gaze into empty space,
And warm his cold hands in his uncut hair.

The final end of the struggle would be,
Evolved from his brain 'mid angry curses,
A pathetic tribute to the deceased,
Closed up with these nearly worded verses:

THE OBITUARY.

Death ever loves a shining mark,
And this it when he tries.
He has snatched the dear departed
To lands beyond the skies.

She's gone! and left us here below
In this sad vale of tears.
She's been a constant reader of
This paper twenty years.

She always had a cheerful heart,
Would never feel nor mope.
And not a neighbor far or near
Could beat her making soap.

She lived among us fifty years,
'Mid earthly cares and joys.
Her husband stays to mourn her loss,
Also three likely boys.

In those good old times it was not all sadness,
There were things that filled the heart with gladness.
One modern curse, which they did not have then,
Was that terror, the stylographic pen,
Which weeps out ink when you don't want it to,
But never a tear when there's work to do.
There were thousands of things they never saw,
Which they should have been truly thankful for.
The "take one" almanac cooking receipt,
From which nothing was ever made fit to eat.

The Base Ball Umpire, the high stoop collar,
The English dude, and eighty cent dollar.
At last and best they happily missed,
The alleged American humorists,
Who for so much a line in current money,
Adopts the profession of being funny.
Now "of all sad words of tongue or pen,"
The saddest are those of the funny men.
Many its has reached man's estate,
Oblivious of impending fate,
When he thoughtlessly cuts the silly caper
Of writing a sketch for his local paper.
Its happens once in a while in a bliss,
Is thought to contain some sparks of wit.
And from that time forth, his friends insist
That he is the "coming humorist."
From that fatal day his troubles begin,
And he reaps but reward of his dreadful sin.
He's continually called upon to write,
For this or that thing, "something bright."
Have for instant use without hesitation,
A sharp, witty speech to fit every occasion.
In fact, to be always loaded with fun,
Which he can fire off, as one does a gun,
Should he ever refuse, or try to protest,
He'll be smilingly told, his "friends know best,"
And his heart will sink with a sad misgiving,
And he'll say to himself, "is life worth living?"

One more thing ere my rhyme is done,
Which boldly stands out to view,
In those good old times of "auld lang syne,"
Then the minstrel jokes were new.
When the funny "end man" a joke would tell,
Nobody rung the "chestnut bell."
And under the glare of the camphene lamp,
In those years so far away,
The clown told stories which then were fresh,
Which he tells in the ring to-day.
And dreading lives he has to them was new,
While now he's as old as the Wandering Jew.

Last night in my chair I slept and dreamed.
And like a reality all it seemed.
I dreamed that former members met and all,
Had met in this Legislative Hall,
When by unknown means, I could not explain,
The dead had come back to life again.
And the shadowy forms of newspaper men,
Who years ago wielded the editor's pen,
Silently came through the opened door,
And noiselessly occupied seats on the floor.
Ghost-like they sat, and attentively listened.
Their faces above and their bright eyes glistened,
As different reports and essays were read,
And they seemed to fuel sorry that they were dead.
At length the session drew near its close,
And upon them I set the "quorum" nose.
An ear-splitting yawn broke the spirit faces,
And as still as statues they kept their places.
The President motioned the poet to proceed,
And he cleared his throat, and began to read.
Before a dozen lines he had read,
The spirit faces wore looks of dread.
Some of them seemed like those in fear,
Some put a cork in either ear.
Down some sad faces the tears they poured,
While all of them looked intensely bored,
And never a party deserved more pity
Than those newspaper men from the Heavenly city.
Finally one, who seemed a chief,
Addressed the others, his speech was brief.
"My friends," said he, "we had better return,
A ghost is never too old to learn.
How well I recall how it made me shiver,
When I thought I must cross over death's dark river.
I dreaded to leave this world so fair,
And pass to the 'unknown' over there.
I lived long here, and have been long there,
My judgment certainly dearly for.
I shall tell my friends as long as I've breath,
There are many things, surely, worse than death.
And of all such things beneath the sun,
This prose and poetry reading is one."
And then they quietly left their chairs,
And silently climbed the golden stairs.

As I look at your faces, somehow I seem
To feel that perhaps I did not dream.

Speech-making then followed from the honorary members, Hon. Hannibal Hamlin, Hon. John L. Stevens, Hon. H. K. Baker and Hon. E. Rowell.

Votes of thanks were tendered the essayist and poet; also the railroads, Chas. Milliken, Esq., of the Augusta House, and the Messenger of the Senate.

The exercises closed by a reception to the members by their President, Mr. Owen, at his residence on Sewall Street. Some 75 persons were present, and it was an occasion of much interest. The Chickering Quartette gave interest to the occasion by their songs, and Miss Parke sang a beautiful piece.

Editor's Table.

SOUVENIRS OF MY TIME. By Jessie Benton Fremont. Ill. Boston: D. Lothrop & Co. Price $1.50. Few American women have had the same opportunities for making social studies in high life, and particularly what would in Europe be called court life, as Mrs. Jessie Benton Fremont. The daughter of one of the most distinguished statesmen of our time, and the wife of a man for years no less distinguished, bred in the intermost circles of Washington society, and personally acquainted with nearly every body of note in official or diplomatic life at the capital, her choice for memoirs were practically unlimited. The delightful reminiscences which Mrs. Fremont has incorporated into this volume will be read with interest by every class of readers, old and young, and will prove a valuable acquisition to the world of literature. These sketches are thoroughly bright and entertaining and give a series of very accurate pictures of the past, which are of real historical value.

FROM ONE OF THE OLD STAGERS. One of the old stage drivers mentioned in our recent article, Mr. E. M. Sawyer, now of Marion, Wis., acknowledges his gratification at receiving the *Farmer*, which carries him back in memory at least 60 years. He writes: "In March, 1834, I went on the road for Gen. Thomas' new line, and his horses, harnesses, sleighs and coaches were O. K. I staid on the road until 1855, and then left for Wisconsin. I remember really a story something like this in the *Maine Farmer* 45 years ago: "Dad, the old black sheep has got two lambs." "Well done, the two will bring $4." "But one is dead." "Well, all the better, the other will bring $3; the sheep will do well yet." "But both lambs are dead." "Well, the old sheep will get fat and bring $3 in the fall." "But, dad, the old sheep is dead." "Well, I am glad, she was a worthless old thing and I am glad we have got rid of her."

A few lines worthy of note came to my mind. In August, 1837, Martin Van Buren was President; his message came out and the boys between Portland and Bangor took it through on horseback, leaving Augusta at 6 A. M., arriving at China at 7 A. M. I mounted the Marshall mare, run to Albion Corner, 6 miles; mounted old Barker; went on to Unity, 8 miles; to Troy, 6 miles; making the 20 miles in 65 minutes. Mr. Hiram Reed is a witness to this. I remember the dark night when I drove the coach from Bangor to Augusta, loaded with the Augusta Grays, the pole broke, run off the bridge and upset twelve of us under a fence, the guns and drums being scattered about promiscuously."

JOHN B. GOUGH'S LAST AND BEST BOOK. The title is "Platform Echoes," and the work was completed by the great lecturer just before his death. In it he has given the world in permanent form his best thoughts, his most touching tales, his most stirring anecdotes and incidents, his most telling stories. As a story teller he has never been equalled. But whether he narrates a story of mirth or sorrow, it is always to illustrate great and living truths. Stranger stories are here told than romance ever dreamed of, every one of them drawn from real life by a master hand. In every chapter he weaves in anecdote after anecdote, incident after incident, story after story, and underneath them all is "Living Truths," that stand out as beacon lights. He plays upon the reader's feelings as with an enchanter's wand, at one time filling the hearts with gladness, at another blinding his eyes in tears.

Its illustrations are good. It contains 227 fine engravings by the best artists and engravers in the world. Many of these illustrations are "Gough stories brought to life," while others depict wretchedness and woe. Sixteen of these engravings are full-page ones, and are magnificent specimens of art. Two hundred and nine are text illustrations. There are two fine steel-plate portraits. One is from a life-size full length painting, showing Mr. Gough as he appeared shortly after the rescue. The other is from a photograph taken just before his death.

Conditions of publications: One, in plain cloth, white paper, plain edges, $2.75 per copy; two, in extra cloth, tinted paper, gold back and side, sprinkled edges, $3.25; three, in fine leather, library style, tinted paper, sprinkled edges, $4.00; four, in half turkey, tinted paper, marbled edges, $5.00. Subscriptions received and books will be delivered to subscribers free of expense by J. W. Patterson, Agent, Augusta.

A GOOD RECORD. At New England Fair, G. M. Twitchell of Readfield, received 1st and 2d on his White Plymouth Rock chicks, and 2d on fowl; at State Fair 1st on fowl, 1st and 3d on chicks, and special for best collection; at Kennebec County Fair, 1st and 2d on fowl; at Oxford County Poultry Exhibition, 1st and 2d on chicks; and at Lowell, Mass., Jan. 14—17, 1st and 2d, showing at the two last only two pairs. At Oxford County he also won 1st and 2d on the old variety, and all the specials, together with that for best scoring bird in the hall, his four pairs bringing home two 1st, two 2d and four specials. That is a good record, but the best of it is the birds will remain in his yards, to breed from the coming season, and whoever orders eggs will get them from his premium stock. His illustrated circular for 1887, has just been issued from the *Farmer* office, and can be had by sending to his address.

Maine Board of Agriculture.

We continue from last week a report of the proceedings at the annual meeting of the State Board of Agriculture. The following is a complete list of the officers and members as they now stand: Officers—J. M. Deering, Saco, President; B. A. Burr, Bangor, Vice President; Z. A. Gilbert, North Greene, Secretary.

Members.	Term expires.
Cumberland—W. W. Harris, Cumberland Cen.,	1887
Sagadahoc—S. L. Holbrook, Brunswick,	1887
Oxford—A. G. Pike, Fryeburg,	1887
Somerset—Geo. F. Moore, No. Anson,	1887
York—J. M. Deering, Saco,	1887
Aroostook—Francis Barnes, Houlton,	1888
Piscataquis—Thomas Daggett, Foxcroft,	1888
Penobscot—B. A. Burr, Bangor,	1888
Franklin—E. J. Gilkey, Strong,	1888
Knox—A. J. Tolman, Rockland,	1888
Lincoln—E. W. Stetson, Damariscotta,	1889
Androscoggin—L. H. Blossom, Turner Cen.,	1889
Kennebec—S. C. Watson, Oakland,	1889
Waldo—R. W. Ellis, Belfast,	1889
Washington—D. W. Campbell, Cherryfield,	1889

Members from State College—Prof. M. C. Fernald, Orono; Prof. Walter Balentine, Orono.

The new members qualified to take seats at the present session of the Board were those from Lincoln, Androscoggin, Kennebec, Waldo and Washington counties. Their terms will expire December, 1889.

Mr. Holbrook, of Sagadahoc, offered the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas, An order of inquiry has been introduced into the Legislature, looking to a possible change in the methods of electing the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture;

Resolved, That as an expression of the judgment of this Board, the choice of its principal executive officer should remain where it now is, under the control of the membership of the Board.

After a full discussion, the resolve was unanimously passed.

W. W. Harris, A. O. Pike, and B. A. Burr, were appointed a Committee to lay the same before the Legislative Committee as the unanimous expression of the Board in regard to the subject.

At two o'clock P. M., the Committee went before the Legislative Committee and a fair and impartial hearing was given to all parties interested in the matter, and though no decision was made at the time, yet it is safe to say that the committee found no evidence to indicate that the members of the Board are not competent to select a secretary. There will be no change in the relation of he Board and its secretary.

Immediately after, a meeting of the Board was held in the Representatives' Hall, and Prof. Jordan gave a lecture upon the subject of Valuation of Commercial Fertilizers, an abstract of which will be found on our outside.

SECOND DAY.

The Board of Agriculture met at 9 o'clock, and after hearing the report of the committee on payroll, a valuable and interesting paper was read by J. M. Deering of York, on "State aid to Agriculture," which was attentively listened to. This paper will be given in full in the *Farmer*. At its close B. A. Burr of Penobscot, offered the following resolutions, which, after being discussed in all their bearings, were unanimously passed:

Resolved, That the loss of the recent calamity at the State College of Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, involving the destruction of its valuable herd, this Board recommends that the sum of five thousand dollars, be asked for by the Trustees, be appropriated to repair the loss; and that it commends the policy of the Trustees, to include two or more breeds in the new herd.

Resolved, That this board commends the College, in all its interests, to the generous support of the Legislature.

Quite a number of the members of the Legislature were present, and listened attentively to the discussions.

The question of the disposition of the State bounty to agricultural societies was brought up, and after considerable discussion by experienced men, was left to be expended by the trustees of the local societies under direction of the county members of the board, in such manner as they see fit, provided such action does not interfere with any existing contracts with competitors.

Mr. Blossom, member from Androscoggin, moved a committee be appointed to draft a resolution upon the recommendations of the member from York, in the paper read in the morning, excusing himself from the committee on account of other duties. Messrs. Holbrook, Campbell and Ellis were appointed that committee.

A general discussion followed on the distribution of the agricultural reports, which was participated in by members of the Board and by members of the legislature present.

Afternoon, the Board met at 2 o'clock, President Deering in the chair. Mr. Holbrook, the member from Sagadahoc, read a carefully prepared and able paper on the "jurisdiction of the Board of Agriculture," suggested probably by the idea that it has somewhere been expressed that the Board has no other business than the holding of farmers' institutes. The paper will be given in full in the *Farmer* when we bespeak for it the careful attention its merit calls for. Mr. Holbrook, from the committee on the address of the member from York, reported back the following resolution to the effect that the appropriation for farmers' institutes be increased to $2500, and that two institutes each year be required in each of the several counties of the State, in place of one as now provided. Also that the salary of the secretary be increased to $800, in view of this increased work.

The member from Oxford, Mr. Pike, moved to add a provision that the edition of the Annual Report be increased to 20,000 copies, and that all be bound in cloth. The resolution, after being fully discussed by nearly every member present, was given two fine steel-plate portraits. One is from a life-size full length painting, showing Mr. Gough as he appeared shortly after the rescue. The other is from a photograph taken just before his death.

Conditions of publications: One, in plain cloth, white paper, plain edges, $2.75 per copy; two, in extra cloth, tinted paper, gold back and side, sprinkled edges, $3.25; three, in fine leather, library style, tinted paper, sprinkled edges, $4.00; four, in half turkey, tinted paper, marbled edges, $5.00. Subscriptions received and books will be delivered to subscribers free of expense by J. W. Patterson, Agent, Augusta.

A GOOD RECORD. At New England Fair, G. M. Twitchell of Readfield, received 1st and 2d on his White Plymouth Rock chicks, and 2d on fowl; at State Fair 1st on fowl, 1st and 3d on chicks, and special for best collection; at Kennebec County Fair, 1st and 2d on fowl; at Oxford County Poultry Exhibition, 1st and 2d on chicks; and at Lowell, Mass., Jan. 14—17, 1st and 2d, showing at the two last only two pairs. At Oxford County he also won 1st and 2d on the old variety, and all the specials, together with that for best scoring bird in the hall, his four pairs bringing home two 1st, two 2d and four specials. That is a good record, but the best of it is the birds will remain in his yards, to breed from the coming season, and whoever orders eggs will get them from his premium stock. His illustrated circular for 1887, has just been issued from the *Farmer* office, and can be had by sending to his address.

The Maine Legislature.

In Senate, Thursday: Mr. Heath of Kennebec, by request of the Board of Health, laid on the table to be printed bill an act to establish local boards of health, and protect the people of this State from contagious diseases.

Mr. Heath reported from committee bill an act to incorporate the Maine State Society for the prevention of cruelty to animals; printed under rule.

Mr. Goodnow reported from committee ought to pass on bill an act to incorporate the Eastport Water Co.

Mr. Lord, from committee, reported bill an act to incorporate the Dover and Foxcroft Light and Heat Co.; read and assigned.

The order to supply members of the legislature with copies of the revised statutes, was indefinitely postponed.

Bill presented to establish a lien on colts.

In House, Thursday:

Ordered, That the Committee on the Judiciary be directed to investigate the question of the gift of the State lands for the construction of the A. & N. A. railroad, and ascertain whether the conditions named in the deed of the said lands by the State have been complied with, with directions to submit such questions as may seem proper for a better understanding of the matter to the Attorney General of the State, for his answer; and report in full as soon as practicable.

Ordered, That the Committee on the Judiciary be directed to inquire whether any further legislation is necessary to enable town clerks to appoint women as deputies under sec. 17, chap. 3, revised statutes.

Ordered, That the Committee on Legal Affairs be directed to see if any legislation is needed to secure a better record of births and deaths.

Ordered, That the committee on Legal Affairs be directed to inquire into the expediency of amending chapter 6 of the revised statutes, entitled "taxes," so that the real and personal property of all literary, benevolent, charitable, and scientific institutions incorporated by the State, used or held, or that may be purchased and so used or held, or obtained, for commercial purposes or for the deriving of a revenue or other income, may be made liable to taxation the same as other property; tabled and ordered printed.

Reports—That petitioners for further close time in Moosehead lake, leave to withdraw; ought to pass on bill an act to correct the taxation of certain plantations; ought to pass on bill an act to incorporate the Maine Mutual Accident Association; bill an act additional to an act relative to the Maine Shore Line Railroad.

Presented and referred—Petition of Isaac H. Cotton and 25 others for change in chap. 13, section 13, relating to fishing rivers. Mr. Condon of Friendship, bill an act to amend chap. 59, sec. 15, revised statutes, relating to record of marriages. Bill an act to establish the standard weight of a barrel of potatoes. Bill an act to amend secs. 21 and 22 of chap. 40, relating to lobsters. Bill an act to amend secs. 8 and 9 of chap. 11 of the revised statutes, relating to the duties of notaries. Petition of Frederick Robie and associates, Executive Committee of the Maine State Grange, submitting journal of proceedings of said Grange, showing its action in regard to adulteration of goods, asking the favorable consideration of the legislature. Petition of E. B. Nealey and 360 other citizens of Bangor, and B. N. Thomas and 97 others, car

Items of Maine News.

John Haley has been appointed Postmaster at Rangeley.

The shoe shipments, Richmond, for the week ending January 20th, were 64 cases and 12 pairs; or 3832 pairs.

While at work in the woods at Andover, Isaac Harper slipped from the log he was cutting, and broke several of his ribs.

Chas. R. Whidden of the *Calais Times*, has been appointed Deputy Collector at that place, by Collector Leavitt.

James E. Wangren, formerly note teller at the First National Bank, Portland, has been chosen cashier.

Wm. A. Bodge, Superintendent of the Androscoggin Pulp Co. Mills, at Brunswick, died of heart trouble Thursday.

A man named Thomas Noble of Calais, was drowned at Vanceboro, Tuesday. He was crossing the bridge and lost his footing and fell into the river.

Tuesday, the 11th, a very sad accident occured at Walter Buckman's landing at Wilson Mills, where Frank York was instantly killed, it is supposed by a log striking him in the chest.

Mate Howard A. Kinson of the schooner Howard Williams, loading ice at Westport, was severely injured Tuesday forenoon by the foreboom falling and striking him on the back and leg.

Three persons named Litherly, living in Eliot, were poisoned by eating canned corned beef, Thursday night. The daughter and mother cannot recover, and the husband is in a very critical condition.

Jane Farnsworth, a pensioner of the war of 1812, died at Camden, Thursday morning, aged 91 years. She leaves a large line of descendants, including the fourth generation.

Edward A. Austin, a well known member of the Washington county Bar and a member of the last State Senate, died suddenly Friday night at his home in Addison, aged forty-eight. He was sick but two or three days.

Blackstone, the defaulter and forger, it is thought will be brought to Portland in the course of a fortnight. Several officers have gone from Portland to be present at Winnipeg at the examination before the courts there.

The jockey Higgins of Bangor, who was so terribly injured at the New England Fair races at Bangor last fall, and who though recovered at the city almshouse, has, it is said, relapsed into a perfectly insane condition. He is not at all violent, but the most of the time acts like a child.

The Masonic Grand Bodies in Maine will hold their annual sessions for 1887 at Masonic Hall in Portland, as follows:

Grand Lodge, Tuesday, May 3, at 9 o'clock		A. M.
Grand Chapter,	" 3, at 7 "	P. M.
Grand Council, Wed'sdy,	" 4, at 7 "	P. M.
Grand Commandery,	" 4, at 7 "	P. M.

On Sunday night, Henry Asselin, a Frenchman in Sanford, 30 years of age, became suddenly and violently insane, attempting to take the life of his mother. He claimed to be the supreme ruler of the universe, and wants to annihilate all mankind. He was sent to the Insane Hospital.

The grand Army Encampment of the State was in session at Bath, Tuesday and Wednesday, Commander-in-Chief Fairchild, being present. Some 400 delegates were present. Dep. Commander Lane delivered his annual address on Tuesday. It is thought that Dick Gatley of Portland, will be elected Commander.

Friday night burglars broke into the store of Frank Smith, Orrington. Boots, cutlery, cigars and other things were taken, also a small amount of money, in all some fifty dollars' worth. It appeared as though the burglars packed their booty in a meal bag, as loose meal was scattered on the floor in different parts of the store. No clue to the robbers has been found.

Mr. George Darling, an old resident of Island Falls, was instantly killed last Thursday, in the woods on his farm, by a falling tree. He was cutting hemlock, and had two trees ready to fall together, and in their descent they struck a leaning maple, which fell upon him as he was trying to get out of the way. He was about 55 years old and unmarried.

Schooner Lottie Wells, Capt. Bunker, from New York for Calais, with nine thousand bushels of corn, went ashore Monday noon on the south side of Mosquito Island near Martinsville. The crew were washed ashore by the surf and saved. The vessel and cargo are a total loss, the schooner being stripped. She belonged in Calais, and was of 188 tons.

In a recent storm, three or four of the teamsters on the big Rangeley lake, were lost in the blinding snow. One of them went on to Lake Mooselucmaguntic, after traveling quite a while found out that he had got turned completely around and was not far from where he first went on. Others got lost the same day. It was a bad storm and as the lost ones say, you could not see anything a rod ahead.

Frank Moody, at work for Fred Fisher at Solon, met with a severe accident the 11th inst. He and Mr. Fisher were engaged in falling a tree, when Mr. Fisher's axe caught on a limb, or smaller tree, causing it to turn in his hand, striking Moody's foot on the under side, cutting a gash from the great toe to the ankle and nearly severing the two larger toes. The physician hopes to save all his toes.

Two tramps attacked C. A. Day, Esq., a merchant at Farmington Falls village, and until recently a postmaster, as he was going from his store to his house, at about 10 o'clock, Thursday night. He fought them determinedly, and his loud shouts for help called Mr. Levi Dakin to his assistance, and together they drove the rascals away. Their object was undoubtedly robbery, as Mr. Day is known frequently to carry large sums of money about.

A sudden death occurred at Orneville last week. Mrs. Reed, of that town, who, up to that time had been, as far as known, in the enjoyment of good health, went out in the barn at night as usual and milked her cow and returned to the house, still apparently as well as ever. She had not, however, been in the house more than three minutes before she was dead, her death probably being the result of heart disease.

The trial of Martha M. Crockett for the murder of her husband, Reuel Crockett, by poison administered in food at Swanville last November, commenced before Judge Virgin in the Supreme Court at Belfast on Wednesday of this week. The alleged motive for the crime was domestic difficulty and refusal of the deceased to allow his wife's son by a former marriage to live in the family. Attorney General Orville D. Baker and County Attorney R. F. Dunton represented the State, and Col. Wm. H. Fogler the defendant. It was shown that the prisoner had made frequent threats against her husband's life, he had violent illness after eating dinner which she refused to partake; his death two days after with symptoms of poison, and that an analysis of the contents of the stomach by Professor Robinson of Bowdoin College, discovered sufficient arsenic to kill ten persons. The defence claimed that the parties had always lived together pleasantly. The case continued until Tuesday afternoon, when it was given to the jury at 5 P. M., and at 8.30 o'clock they returned a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree. Mrs. Jos. S. Witherby, aged about 65, a spectator at the trial, died suddenly on her way home from the court house this Tuesday noon, it is supposed from heart disease.

The following pensions have been granted the past week:

Lydia, wife of Lewis Lair, Union. Minerva, mother of David G. Bagley, increase, Liberty.

Ebenezer T. Flood, original, No. Waterborough.

Kendall A. Prout, original, West Bowdoin.

Bradford F. Lancaster, increase, Augusta.

James A. Bennett, increase, Durham.

Robert L. Walley, increase, Cherryfield.

Lewis E. Goodridge, re-issue, Portland.

Ann M., widow of Granville W. Baker, Litchfield.

Chas. Hook, (original) Bath.

Joseph Fuller, alias Joseph Avery, Augusta, (increase.)

Joseph Hatch (reissue) Weeks' Mills (increase.)

Seth W. Rowe, (increase) Lewiston.

Benj. B. McKenney, so. Waterborough, original.

Henry Frost, Belgrade Mills, original.

Geo. A. Dyer, New Sharon, reissue.

Ephraim T. Robertson, Weld, increase.

Warren L. Whitney, Bangor; increase.

Geo. F. Sawyer, White Rock; increase.

Thos. Brogan, Togus; reissue.

Herman Hannerville, Jr., Madison Center; reissue.

Fred-rick A. Griffin, Belfast; increase.

Nathan Emerson (deceased), original, Bucksport.

Geo. B. Morrill (original), Lewiston.

Stephen H. Mills (original), South Norridgewock.

Stephen P. Chase (original), West Baldwin.

Irvin A. King (original), Hallowell.

Wm. R. Crosby (increase), Fairfield.

Hosea K. Knowles (reissue), Portland.

Henry M. Neal (increase), Whitefield.

Geo. W. Pelton (reissue and increase), West Gardiner.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is a positive cure for all those weaknesses so common to our best female population.

Best iodides and vegetable alteratives make Ayer's Sarsaparilla the best blood medicine.

To Ladies. For pains in and around the small of the back apply a *Hop Plaster*. Sure Cure.

If you once try Carter's Little Liver Pills for sick headache, billousness or constipation you will never be without them. They are purely vegetable; small and easy to take, all druggists sell them.

"100 Doses One Dollar" is true only of Hood's Sarsaparilla, and it is an unanswerable argument as to strength and economy.

Items of General News.

Small pox is spreading in New York with alarming rapidity.

A bond call for $13,887,000 of the 3 per cent. loan of 1882, was made on Saturday.

Sam Jones is more decent in his speeches in Boston than he has been in most places.

Ex-Gov. Bates has been elected to the U. S. Senate in Tennessee.

Dr. Wm. G. Elliott, President of Washington University, St. Louis, died Sunday, aged 75 years.

Lawrence King, a Chicago man, is charged with poisoning six persons to obtain the insurance on their lives.

The National Board of Trade favor better coast defences and are down on light weight silver.

Mr. M. S. Quay was Wednesday elected as United States Senator from Pennsylvania.

Senator Dawes has been reelected to the U. S. Senate by the legislature of Massachusetts.

In the New York Legislature on Wednesday, the Morton men made a change to Frank Hiscock, and he was nominated and elected for U. S. Senator on the 18th ballot.

A monster memorial demonstration is expected to take place in Brooklyn Academy of Music early in February, in honor of the late Gen. John A. Logan.

A great demonstration in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Davitt was held in New York city, Sunday night. Mr. Powderly and Henry George were present.

An express train in Texas was stopped by armed robbers early Sunday morning. The express car and the mails were robbed, but the passengers were not molested.

Two fatal coasting accidents were reported, Saturday. A girl was killed in Providence, R. I., and a boy killed and another probably fatally hurt in Somerville, Mass.

Mrs. Townsley, the Chicago lady who fell four hundred feet in Independence Pass, Colorado, without receiving a scratch, has reached home. She tells an interesting story.

Mrs. Autimette Caraloke, who lived near Cleveland, Ohio, Wednesday morning killed three of her children, fatally injured two others, and then commited suicide by hanging.

The legislature of California, in joint session, Wednesday, elected George Hearst United States Senator, by the following vote: Hearst (dem.,) 65; Vrooman, (rep.,) 52; Hartson (rep.,) 1.

Rev. Phillips Brooks preached Sunday night in Faneuil Hall, Boston, to a large audience, it being the first of a series of popular religious services. The first meeting was a great success. The audience was notably cosmopolitan.

Mrs. Ada Tyler, the dissipated wife of Peter Tyler, a hard working mechanic, was killed Saturday night at Lynn by Samuel Mitchell, a mulatto, who has for the past week been on a drunken spree. Mitchell was sent out of work and spent most of his time with the Tyler's. Mrs. Tyler died almost immediately after being found, but Mitchell's wound is not serious. Both parties were probably under the influence of liquor at the time of the tragedy.

The House has passed the Inter-State commerce bill, and it has gone to the President for his signature. The agricultural appropriation bill has been reported from a committee. The Senate has passed the Edmunds fishery bill by a vote of 46 to one. This is in retaliation to Canada of the way in which its government has treated our fishermen, and prohibits intercourse with our ports.

Two strangers entered G. H. Mead's store on Railroad Avenue, White Plains, N. Y., with cocked revolvers at 6.40 Tuesday evening, apparently bent on robbery. Mr. Mead's son, Wm. E., 27 years old, came out of the back room and drove them out. The robbers shot him dead and then fled. Chief of Police Lee and two officers heard the shooting and followed and overtook the murderers, who at once turned in another direction and hid themselves under a large stone bridge which spans Broon river. Being found there they fired several times at the officers, and when about to be taken shot themselves dead. The murdered man was highly esteemed.

The family of Gerkart Stephens, at Dayton, Ohio, bought, some time ago, of a pig-boat, which was brought home and pickled. A few days ago the meat was served on the table, and Mrs. Stephens, her husband, and a daughter 16 years old, ate of the same. In the evening of the day, the father, the mother and the daughter became violently sick, and suffered great pain. The father and mother have partially recovered, but are still in a dangerous state. The daughter is in a very critical condition, and there is little hope of saving her life. The physicians say that the patients have all the symptoms of poisoning by strychnine. A dog was fed with the meat and died in convulsions.

Early Sunday morning the west bound passenger train on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad was totally wrecked by the explosion of the locomotive's boiler. The train just whistled for Hawthorne, a small station four miles east of Carmi, when the explosion occurred. Fragments of the engine were scattered many rods in every direction. The baggage and mail car and the passenger coaches were ditched and badly smashed, but the sleeper, though derailed, was not overturned. Engineer William Hancock and Fireman Edward Gray were both instantly killed. Their bodies were terribly mangled. Only two of the forty passengers were seriously injured. The explosion is attributed to lack of water in the boiler.

The police of Chelsea, Mass., Friday night, arrested Gariano Russo, aged 48, Baldasaro Boseo aged 40, and Rosa Perinini, 27, and the capture is doubtless the most important ever made by the police of the country. All three are Italians, and they are well known thieves and counterfeiters. The house was found to be a veritable storehouse for valuables, diamonds, jewelry of all kinds, as well as watches, money in bank notes, gold coins, silver coins and bullion were found everywhere in all manner of hiding places. A vase was overturned on a table and a shower of gold fell on the floor. A tin pail was uncovered and found to contain innumerable watches. Under carpets and mattresses were bank notes, and money was stuffed in the upholstering of furniture. Every where was money and jewelry, the entire collection being worth many thousands of dollars. Having secured the woman the officers continued their search in the rear of the house and proceeded to a shed, when entering the door of which a bull dog of gigantic size sprung out. The animal fastened his fangs in the leg of one of the policemen when the other released him by shooting the dog. Entering the shed the men found themselves in a small sized, but thoroughly equipped mint. There were dies, moulds, crucibles and other implements used in counterfeits; the whole forming the most complete set of apparatus for coining the "queer" ever captured in New England. The counterfeits were all finely executed.

With a south-westerly wind blowing from 30 to 50 miles an hour over Lake Erie, at Buffalo, during the 20 hours ending Thursday, the ice for some miles up became loosened, causing a "shove." Thursday afternoon fully 600 men were scattered over the ice for ten miles up the lake from the government breakwater. Shortly after 5 o'clock they became suddenly aware that the ice was breaking up, and a stampede ensued. The men struck in all directions, many of them not having time to even secure their effects, while others had to leave their dogs and sleds behind them, and flee for their lives. Those who were fortunate enough to be near the Canadian or American shore easily got to places of safety, but the crowd in the centre had an exciting time. Some of them were suddenly brought to a standstill by seeing open patches of water ahead of them, and turned to find they were completely cut off. Some called out to one or two men, others eight or ten, while one immense piece bore up a freight of fifty human beings. These had nothing to do but wait, and as the cakes would come together take the chances of jumping from one piece to another. All managed to get off but a party of eight, who were seen floating on a piece in the open water. Three men headed by a fisherman named Cochrane obtained a boat and by carrying and rowing it got as close to them as possible. Seven of the party jumped from cake to cake and were rowed to safety. But the old man could not be induced to try it. He remained where he was until his friends, after much work, reached him and half dragged him off. It is reported that a man named Haley is missing.

The ladies of East New Sharon paid their respects to M. F. Thing and children, Jan. 8th, in the form of a donation visit, and the gentlemen by their presence in the evening, in the morning Mrs. C. W. Cram and Mrs. H. Cram, dressmakers, and Mrs. R. B. York, tailoress, cut and fitted the garments. In the afternoon some twenty gathered with sewing machines and needles, where they busied themselves until tea time. After that the gentlemen came in, and the young folks left for the kitchen with the button, and the old ones singing Rejoice Forevermore. When their attention was called to the young folks' room where one of the ladies found her husband making a sugar bowl with the school teacher, and all joined in "Green grow the rushes, oh," and a general good time. At ten o'clock they were invited to be seated, where some thirty plates of peanuts, apples and cornballs were passed around, the latter which were passed beyond the reporter's pen, were formed under the skilful hands of Miss Lilla Cram. At about eleven they (after being thanked by Mr. Thing) said their good byes, and left him and his children with warm garments, thankful hearts and happy faces. MAGGIE, aged 12 years.

—PUBLIC LECTURE AND INSTALLATION. Ex-Gov. Robie, Worthy Master of Maine State Grange, will give a lecture, and install the officers of Cascade Grange, at Memorial Hall, Oakland, Jan. 29th, at 7 o'clock, P. M. The public, and farmers especially, are invited to be present.

—Eureka Grange of Mapleton, have chosen the following officers for the ensuing year:

Master—A. Ross.
Overseer—A. M. Dudley.
Secretary—J. W. Dudley.
Steward—J. W. Belyea.
Asst. Steward—E. F. Huff.
Chaplain—James McGlauthlin.
Secretary—E. Farr.
Gate Keeper—Cecil Pulcifer.
Pomona—Margaret Ross.
Flora—Susan Dudley.
Ceres—Corian Stiles.
L. A. S.—Matilda Jackson.

A Maine Miser.

The Last Days of a Damariscotta Lawyer.

A well known character in Lincoln county was Nathaniel N. Pike, who died in Damariscotta recently, at the age of 67. He was a lank long-limbed six-footer, erect as a candle when he walked, and, when not riding, it was his practice to sport a cane. Forty years ago he came to the ancient and thrifty town of Damariscotta, from the western part of the State, and taught a winter term of school. As soon as his pedagogical services were ended, he entered into a law copartnership with the late Hon. Ezra B. French, which lasted until Mr. French was elected to Congress in 1857, when it was dissolved, and Pike devoted himself alone to his profession ever afterward. He was a fairly well read lawyer, but never achieved distinction.

During his partnership with French he married a woman by whom he had four or five children, all of whom died except two girls. His wife was an eccentric person. She dressed in Bloomer costume and carried a cane. For some reason or other they separated, and he procured a bill of divorce. She then went to Massachusetts with the two girls, and the last heard of her she was a spiritualistic doctor. In the course of a few years he wooed and wedded a highly respectable young lady resident of the village. After living two or three years of married life he was again divorced, and today she is an inmate of the State Insane Hospital. Pike led a single life ever afterward. His only companion was a dog. When the animal died he obtained another, and another, and never visited him. One of them is now an accomplished music teacher, and the other an expert stenographer out west, and both are highly esteemed by all who know them.

Two miles from Damariscotta village, Pike lived in a small 1½ story, wood colored farm house, located in a field which he used to make up the hay for stock, which comprised the farm. The property came into Pike's possession some ten years ago by foreclosure of a mortgage he held on it. During the past five years he divided his time in farming and pleading what little law practice he could get, which did not amount to much, and consisted mostly in making conveyances. He kept a small herd of cattle and a horse, of which animal he was very fond. Early last fall a family who had lived in the house for nearly two years, and with whom Pike boarded, moved away, and this left him the sole occupant. During his life Pike was known as a close fisted, sordid man, and the older he grew the more parsimonious and miserly he became. No tramp ever wore more slovenly and tattered clothes than he. An old castaway hat that he picked up served as his head covering for years. He was such a niggard that, it is said, he never bought a daily newspaper in his life. Once when he boarded at a hotel it was with the understanding that he should eat but one meal daily, in order to avoid expense. His neighbors looked upon him as a Shylock and a miser. A bill could not be collected against him, because if he had any property it was beyond the reach of the sheriff. His only luxury was to delight in what he deprived himself of the actual necessities of life. He became so parsimonious that to save firewood in the dead of winter, and oblivious of his own comfort, he was his habit to boil a large pot of potatoes and make up a big batch of potatoes at intervals, which subsistance he would make last as long as possible. During the zero weather of the present winter, he would visit neighbors frequently to warm himself, instead of building a fire in his own house.

Two days before he died, although suffering with pneumonia, he heard a hen cackling and went to the barn in search of the egg. One of his neighbors who was with him in the house at the time he started out, endeavored to remonstrate with him for going, when he replied in a feeble voice, "I couldn't have the egg freeze." Shortly after Pike was seized with pneumonia, a neighbor summoned a physician who hastened at once to his house. Pike was found in his kitchen, sitting before a dirty, cracked cook stove, in which an alder fire was burning, and which scarcely warmed the apartment on account of the cold current of air which pervaded it. The old miser was consisted of an old coat in shreds, and a pair of thin, dirty overalls. He had no vest, nothing to protect his chest but a cotton shirt. Socks and slippers completed his outfit. The room was destitute of furniture, and the floor looked as if it had never seen soap and water. It was squalid and filthy in the extreme. The physician ordered him to bed at once, and told him that he must take to his bed. Before he left, Pike directed him not to call again unless ordered by him. Two days passed and Pike grew worse, and the doctor was summoned again. The following day the doctor was again sent for and brought with him a friend of Pike, who had expressed a wish to see him. Entering the kitchen, the physician was astonished to find his patient still occupying the chair in the last stages of pneumonia, with some half-dozen of his neighbors gathered about him. "This farce has been carried on long enough," exclaimed the doctor to Pike. "If I am to continue to treat you, you must and shall, go to bed." An adjoining room was known to be where Pike had always slept. None of the neighbors had ever entered it. At the request of the doctor, two of the company with himself, went to the door with a view of preparing his bed and placing him upon it. The door was thrown open, and a more wretched apartment was never disclosed to their astonished gaze. There was dirt on the floor, dirt on the walls, dirt everywhere, and the bed consisted of straw which looked as if it had passed through a dozen threshing machines. There was a pile of filthy and odorous rags in the shape of bed clothing. Standing against the wall was an old, begrimed bookcase containing a handful of law books.

The neighbors hastened to their homes to procure various articles of bedding, but before they returned Pike had breathed his last; he had died sitting in his chair. The mourning of his death he was asked to disclose to some of the neighbors the whereabouts of a sister and his two daughters, in order that they could send for them, but he refused because he did not have to pay the expenses of their journey. When he was told, while in a dying condition, that if he had anything to say or anything to do, it must be done immediately, he made no reply, but with a vacant look in his eyes, he did stare. In thirteen minutes afterward death claimed the miser-lawyer as its victim.

The singular part of the story is to come. None of the Damariscotta people ever supposed that Pike was well off, much less dreamed that he was one of their richest citizens. They only knew that he possessed a little property, and had reason to believe that if he had any money it was hoarded away, but it could not be a large sum. In searching his chamber, an old trunk was found, containing a decent suit of clothes, which nobody had ever seen him wear; but a greater prize than this was discovered. Secreted in the trunk were national bank bills, bonds and evidences of cash deposits, amounting in all to over $25,000. How did he get this wealth? Some say "He got the most of it during the construction of the Knox & Lincoln railroad. The laborers employed were mostly dissipated foreigners, and when pay-day came there was nothing for them. Pike had drawn their pay on orders which they had sold him at an enormous discount. This is the only way that his accumulations can be accounted for. The wealth he leaves surprises everybody. It will go to his two daughters."

—Androscoggin County Grange held its last meeting at East Auburn. Early in the morning members of the order from adjoining towns began to put in an appearance. Young's Corner Grange sent a large delegation. It is a well known fact that the order Patrons of Husbandry is composed of many of our best citizens and it was an intelligent company that "came to order" at half past ten, A. M., in Grange Hall. Worthy Master Quimby opened in the fourth degree by Worthy Master Martin. After opening ceremonies and business matters were disposed of, Mrs. F. F. Vickery of East Auburn, presented an interesting and practical paper; subject, "How shall we adorn our homes?" which reflects credit upon its author. The afternoon session was opened in the discussion of the question, "To what extent and in what manner shall we purchase fertilizers?" First speaker, Mr. John Goss, who said his idea is to buy ground bone and work it up with acid or ashes, as the cheapest way to make a commercial fertilizer. Mr. Bean advanced the idea that we feed to our stock cotton seed meal. Mr. J. D. Briggs spoke of the necessity of using fertilizers to start the crops in the early part of the season, etc. The Secretary was instructed to send samples of some doubtful bone meal fertilizers to the experimental station for analysis. Fifteen new applicants for the fifth degree were elected and applications for fifteen others were read. Nearly every Grange in the county were represented. Over 100 delegates were in attendance, and the hall was full and so were the grangers after eating such a dinner, that grangers' wives and daughters know so well how to prepare. This convention will long be remembered by those in attendance as an interesting and profitable event.

The Markets.

Report of Union Stock Market.

[Specially Reported for the Maine Farmer.]

WATERTOWN, Jan. 25, 1887.

Names of Drovers.	No. Cattle.	Sheep.	Veals.
F. H. Cooledge & Son,	21	41	00
W. R. Brown,	10	10	00
Coffin & Libby,	00	00	160
C. H. Merrill,	16	14	75
J. H. Fogg,	23	10	00
J. G. Littlefield,	21	3	00
Weiler & Libby,	18	19	75

SALES.

W. R. Brown sold 2 heifers, 500 lbs. each, at $58; 10 veals, averaging 110 lbs., at 6½ cents live. J. H. Fogg sold 10 veals at 6½; C. H. Merrill sold 1 pair of working oxen 6 feet, 9 inches, weighing 2600 lbs., for $110; 1 pair 7 feet, weighing 3000 lbs., for $120; 2 fancy whitefaceds, to drese 1800 lbs., at $130; 1 pair oxen to dress 2000 lbs., at 6½ cents dressed weight. Weiler & Libby, 1 new milch cow at $45; 1 springer at $43; 2 springers at $90; 2 springers at $30 each; veal calves at 7 cents, averaging 115 lbs.; 75 sheep at 5 cents, averaging 100 lbs. Coffin & Libby sold 100 sheep and lambs at 4¾ cents, averaging 90 lbs.

REMARKS.

Beef trade remains without notable change. Sheep and lambs sell better; we quote ¼ cent advance. Trade for veal calves is always good at this season of the year; best lots bring more than any other kind of stock offered for sale in the market, 7 cents live. The whole State of Massachusetts is a skating rink on account of recent rain and freezing. This materially hurts the trade on milch cows, working oxen and store cattle, as farmers cannot move them into the country.

C. E. LIBBY.

Brighton Cattle Market,

BOSTON, TUESDAY, Jan. 25.

Amount of live stock at market—Cattle 1393, Sheep and lambs 3600, Swine 29,250, Horses 112, number of Western Cattle, 1353 Northern Cattle, 46.

Prices of Beef Cattle per 100 lbs. live weight—Extra quality $5 12½@5 75; first quality $4 75 @ 5 12½ second quality $4 25@4 63¾; third quality $3 62½@4 12½ poorest grades of coarse Oxen, Bulls, &c., $3 00@3 50.

Brighton Hides 7c. per lb.

Brighton Tallow 3c. per lb.

Country Hides, heavy, 6¼@7c. per lb., light, 6c. per lb.

Country Tallow 1¾@2¼c. per lb.

Calf Skins 9@9½c. per lb.

Lamb Skins 85@$1.40 each.

Dairy Skins 25@50c. each.

SALES OF CATTLE.

By Number.	Price per 100 lbs live wt.	wt.	Live wt.
A. N. Monroe 23	4 35	"	1455
do 16	5 50	"	1550
do 15	4 85	"	1460
do 25	5 55	"	1585
do 15	4 90	"	1335
do 18	4 60	"	1303
Farrell & McFlynn 9	5 10	"	1350
do 10	5 25	"	1450
do 10	5 00	"	1200
do 5	4 95	"	1150

The demand for beef cattle have not varied any to speak of from those of one week ago. Trade was moderate, with a good supply of beef Cattle on the market for sale. Many of the Cattle were of an extra quality, and were intended for the export trade. Prices for Cattle suitable for the Boston markets ranged from $4 25 @5 55 per 100 pounds live weight. At the present time there are large supplies of Western dressed beef being brought into the markets at Boston; much of it of an ordinary grade of beef and selling at low prices.

Sheep and Lambs. There has not been so large a supply of Sheep and Lambs from the West as there were the week previous. Those brought in were owned by butchers, costing from 4¾@6c for Sheep and 6¾@ 7½c per lb live weight for Lambs landed at the yards.

Swine. Western Fat Hogs are costing from 5¼@5½c per lb. live weight, landed at the slaughter houses. In our number we give account of all the Western fat hogs brought in over the several railroads for the week past, all being owned by butchers.

Boston Market.

BOSTON, TUESDAY, Jan. 25.

The demand for corn is quiet. While there is a disposition to buy better grades the market is in the buyers' favor, and sales are made at concessions. Steamer yellow is quoted at 51½@52c, with steamer mixed at 51@51¼, high mixed 52@52½c, steamer yellow, 51½@52c; do mixed, 51@ 51½c; good no grade.

The market in oats is steady, with an easier tone in the wholesale trade. No. 2 white are ranging from 40@41c; No. 1 white, 41½@42c, and fancy clipped, 42@ 43c.

FLOUR AND GRAIN. The trade in the flour market continues quiet, with the prices holding firm. There seems to be no disposition on the part of the dealers to take hold. The situation is hopeful and the outlook satisfactory. Both winter wheat and spring patents are held firm. Fine $2 60@3 01; superfine $3 00@3 60; extras and seconds $3 50@4 25; bakers $4 35@4 70; Michigan stone $4 15@4 50; winter wheat, straight and rollers, 4 40@ 4 80; patents, $4 85@5 50; spring patents, prime, $5 25@5 65; Canada superfor, for export, $4 20, f o b; Canada rollers for export $4 25@4 40, f o b; Canada patent, for export, 4 40@4 70, f o b. Corn is shoved around, for export, $2 30@2 35 per bbl, f o b, with goods for local trade bringing about 5@10c more; corn meal $1 00@1 03; choice granulated cornmeal $3 75 per bbl. 4½ to 5 cents 75. Oatmeal $3 20@5 45 for fine and $5 75@6 45 for cut.

Hay is steady, with a quiet demand. Prices are unchanged. Straw is quiet and unchanged.

Augusta City Market.

[CORRECTED WEEKLY FOR THE MAINE FARMER]

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 26.

APPLES—$2 00@2 50 per bbl.; dried, 2@ 3c per lb.; evaporated 6@7c per lb.

BEANS—Pea beans $1 65@1 85; Yellow Eyes $1 90@2 00.

BUTTER—Best Firkin Butter sells for 20@22c; Ball Butter 25c.

CHEESE—13@14c.

COTTON SEED MEAL—$1 45 per cwt.

EGGS—28c per dozen.

FLOUR—St. Louis $5 78@6 00; Patent 6 00@6 50.

GRAIN—Corn 58@60c; oats 40@45; barley 60c. Rye $1 00.

HAY—$12 00@15 00.

STRAW—Loose $6@8?; pressed $8@10.

HONEY—Choice Aroostook 15@16c.

HIDES AND SKINS—Cow and ox hides, 6c; bulls and stags, 4c; calf skins, 8@10c.

LIME AND CEMENT—Lime $1 10 per cask; cement $1 60.

LARD—Tierce 6¾@7; Dom. 7¼@8c.

MEAL—Corn 58@60c; rye 90@1 00.

PRODUCE—Potatoes, 40@50c per bu. cabbages, 1c per lb; squash, 1c per lb.; turnips, 30c per bushel; beets, 30c per bu.

PROVISIONS—Clear salt pork 7@8c; beef per side 8@8½c; ham 9@9½c; fowls 8@10c; lamb 7@8c; mutton 5@ 6c; veal 7@8c; spring chickens 12@13c; Turkeys 16@18c; round hog 6c.

SHORTS—$1 10@1 20 per hundred.

There is but little life in the poultry trade and prices are without material change. Round hog is in good demand and firm, at quotations. Butter is being brought in freely, and prices ruling lower. A light supply of eggs, and prices ruling higher. Apples remain unchanged.

Portland Market.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 26.

APPLES—$1 50@2 75 per bbl; evaporated 12@13c per lb.

BUTTER—20@23 for choice family; Vermont, 27@29c per lb; creamery, 28@30c.

BEANS—Pea, $1 75@1 85; Yellow Eyes, $1 50@1 65.

CHEESE—Maine and Vermont Factory, new, 13½@14½c; N. Y. Factory, 13¼@ 14½c.

COAL—Stove and Egg, $5 25@5 75.

FLOUR—Superfine, $2 50@3 50; Spring X and XX, $4 10@4 25; Michigan Winter X and XX, $4 87@5 12; Roller Michigan, $5 25@5 50; St. Louis Winter Patents, $5 00@5 50.

FISH—Cod Shore, $2 75@3 00; bank, $2 25@2 50; Scaled herring per box, 16@ 20c; Mackerel per bbl, Shore No 1, $21 50@ 25 00.

GRAIN—Corn, bag lots, 55@56; oats, 41@42c; cotton seed, car lots, $23 25@ 23 50; cotton seed, bag lots, $24 00@25 00; sacked bran, car lots, $19 00@21 00; sacked bran, bag lots, $20 00@22 00; middlings, car lots, $20 00@22 00; middlings, bag lots, $21 00@23 00.

LARD—Per tierce, 7@7¼c per lb; per tub, 7@7¼c; pail, 7¾@8¼c.

PROVISIONS—Chickens, 11@13c; fowl, 8@10c; turkeys, 15@16; eggs, 29@30c; potatoes, 50@60; extra beef, $8 25@8 50; pork backs, $16 50@17 00; clear, $15 50@ 16 00; hams, 11@11¾c; covered, 12@13¾c.

Chicago Live Stock Market.

TUESDAY, Jan. 25.

CATTLE—Receipts, 6,000; shipments 2000; steady; fancy 0 00@0 00; shipping steers at 3 40@5 10; stockers and feeders, 2 30@ 3 40; cows, bulls and mixed strong at 1 70@2 50; bulk 2 35@2 80; Texans—

HOGS—Receipts, 17,000; shipments 5,000; strong; rough and mixed 4 40@4 95; packing and shipping at 4 70@5 70; light at 4 25@4 85; skips at 2 75@4 30.

SHEEP—Receipts, 5,000; shipments 1,000; steady; natives 3 00@5 00; Western 3 00@ 3 60; Texans at 2 50@4 00; Lambs at 4 00 @5 75.

New York Money Market.

NEW YORK, Jan. 25.

United States Bonds. 3's,	(reg.)	100
" " 4s,	(reg.)	126½
" " 4s,	(coup.)	126¾
" " 4½s	(reg.)	110¾
" " 4½	(coup.)	110¾
" " Pacific 1st.		114

Special Notices.

This powder never varies. A marvel of purity, strength and wholesomeness. More economical than the ordinary kinds, and cannot be sold in competition with the multitude of low test, short weight, alum or phosphate powders. *Sold only in cans.*
ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 106 Wall St., N. Y.
40580

NEW SYSTEM OF BEE KEEPING.

Every one who has a Farm or Garden can keep Bees on my plan with good profit. I have invented a Hive and New System of Bee Management, which renders bee keeping pleasant and profitable. I have received One Hundred Dollars Profit from each of Two Hives from which I Rose in One Year. ILLUSTRATED CIRCULAR OF FULL PARTICULARS, Free. Address,

Mrs. LIZZIE E. COTTON, West Gorham, Maine.
1of1

Bangor Produce Market.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 26.

APPLES—75c@$2 25 per bbl.

BEANS—Yellow Eyes, $1 40@1 50 per bush.; hand picked Pea, $1 80@1 85.

BUTTER—Best, 25@26c per lb.; fair to good, 22@24c.

EGGS—27c per doz.

GRAIN—Oats, 35c per bushel.

HAY—$12@13 per ton; best bales, $13@ 14.

CORN—60c; meal, 56c.

POTATOES—Best quality per bushel, 55@60c.

PROVISIONS—Pork, round hog per lb., 6@6¼c. Chicken, 12@15c per lb. Fowl per lb., 8@12c. Turkeys, 15@18c.

Items and Incidents.

Congressmen Henley of California is reported to be about to resign, and remember the other day: "I tell you, gentlemen, it does not pay to stay in Congress. I have had enough of it. Why, I left here last August, and in three months I made $15,000 practicing law in California. Nothing could induce me to stay here two years longer. I will be back about the 4th of March comes, and I can go back to my sheep ranche and my law office."

As an after-dinner pill, to promote easy digestion, Ayer's Pills are wonderfully effective.

The removal of the sand about the great Egyptian sphinx has exposed the fore paws which have been believed that the paws are not hewn in stone like the rest of the body, but built up of brick, in order, it is supposed, to lend greater stability to the foundation.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound removes faintness, flatulency, destroys all craving for stimulants and relieves weakness of the stomach.

It is claimed that Orchard Hill, Ga., has the largest peach orchard in the world. It comprises 790 acres and contains 84,000 trees, and is owned by J. D. Cunninghame.

Hop Plasters (Porous) are medicated with Hops, Gums and Balsams. Cure pains and aches.

Sprigge: "How much older is your sister than you, Johnny?" Johnny: "I dunno. Maud uster be 25 years, then she was 20, and now she ain't only 18. I guess we'll soon be twins."

Those unhappy persons who suffer from nervousness and dyspepsia should use Carter's Little Nerve Pills, which are made expressly for sleepless, nervous, dyspeptic sufferers. Price 25 cents, all druggists.

It is said that the President and Mrs. Cleveland contemplate a lot of travel this summer; that they intend going to the Pacific slope through the South, spending some time in the woods of Michigan and New York, and that Presidential duties will take sufficient exercise to work down his superfluous flesh and give his muscles some elasticity, so as to obviate the danger he is in of a stroke of apoplexy.

"The pain and misery suffered by those who are afflicted with dyspepsia are indescribable. The distress of the body is equalled or surpassed by the confusion and tortures of the mind, thus making its victims suffer a

Poetry.

Logan at Peach Tree Creek.

THE SERGEANT'S STORY.

You know that day at Peach Tree Creek,
When the rebs with their circling, scorching wall
Of smoke-fed cannon and sweep of flame
Drove in our flanks, back! back! and all
Our toil seemed lost in the storm of shell—
That desperate day McPherson fell!

Our regiment stood in a little glade
Set round with half-grown red oak trees—
An awful place to stand, in full sight,
While the minie bullets hummed like bees,
And comrades dropped on either side—
Ah! that fearful day McPherson died!

The roar of the battle, steady, stern,
Rung in the ears. Upon her eyes
The belching cannon smoke, the half-hid swing
Of deploying troops, the groans, the cries,
The hoarse commands, the sickening smell—
That blood-red day McPherson fell!

Thus stood, I remember—when out from the tree,
Out of the smoke and dismay to the right
Burst a rider—his head was bare, his eye
Had a blaze like a lion fain for fight;
His long hair, black as the deepest night,
Streamed out on the wind. And the might
Of his ploughing horse was a tale to tell,
And his voice ran high like bugle's swell:

"Men, the enemy hem us on every side;
We'll whip them yet—close up that breach—
Remember your flag—losing's give an inch!
The right flank's gaining and soon will reach—
Forward boys, and give 'em ——!"
Said Logan, after McPherson fell.

We laughed and cheered till the red ground shook,
As the General plunged along the line
Through the deadliest rain of screaming shells;
For the sound of his voice refreshed as wine,
And we filled the gap like a roaring tide,
And saved the day McPherson died!

But that was twenty-odd years ago,
And part of a horrible dream now past.
For Logan, the lion, the drum throbs low
And the flag swings low on the mast:
He has followed his mighty chieftain through
The mist-hung stream, where gray and blue
One color stand,
And North and South extend the hand.

It's right that deeds of war and blood
Should be forgot, but, spite of all,
I think of Logan, now, as he rode
That day 'cross the glade; I hear the call
Of his trumpet voice, see the battle shine
In his stern, black eyes, and down the line
Of cheering men I see him ride,
As on the day McPherson died.

Our Story Teller.

STORIES OF THE WILD WEST.

I.

Uncle Joe, an Indian and a Panther.

"I was huntin' and trappin' along the Columbia river on the Oregon side," said Uncle Joe, a veteran of the plains and mountains, "and while I was right in the Injun country, I kivered my tracks so well that it was weeks before they got on to me. I built a brush hut in a heavily-timbered bottom, and the keerful manner in which I moved around the neighborhood would have done credit to a cat. I used the bow and arrow altogether in killin' game, and my traps brought me in a back load of furs about as fast as I could take keer of 'em.

"I guess I had bin out 'bout three six weeks, and had become sort o' careless, as was natural, when I got a sudden eye-opener. One afternoon I came plump on the moccasin track of an Injun, and from the way it circumbocured around, I soon made up my mind that he was huntin' for me. I was a bit puzzled at first, because there was only one track, but by and by I figured out how it was. It was either some Injun who had slipped off to trap by hisself for a few days, or it was some warrior who had had his suspicions aroused, and was doin' a leetle investigation on his own hook. If he got my scalp he was so much ahead, and glory awaited him. If he got nuthin' he wouldn't be laughed at by the rest of his tribe, for none of 'em would know of his adventure. The mint I diskivered his footprints I pulled myself together fur bizness, and I hadn't follered his trail over twenty rods before I found that he was follerin' an old trail of mine.

"It didn't take me a minit to realize that one of us had got to die afore that hunt would be ended. It was a question of fish or cut bait with me. I should be follered if I left the bottoms, and I didn't 'pear wanted my life, and I couldn't stay if he did. On his side, it would never do fur him to abandon the place after he had diskivered that I was alone. He must stake his life again mine and abide the issue. Mebbe you can realize sunthin' of the feelin' which comes over a man when he knows that he is bein' tracked by somebody who demands his life. I'd rayther have had a whole tribe of redskins come whoopin' and yellin' down upon me, than to know that a serpent was dodgin' and crawlin' along my trail, silent, determined and implacable. I hit the feller's trail about half a mile from the hut, and the hour was about 3 o'clock. I knew that he must sooner or later strike one of my fresh trails and bring up at the hut, and instead of followin' him as he followed my old trail, I broke off after a few minutes and made directly fur the hut. Near by was a mass of rock which offered a secure hidin'-place, and if I could reach it without bein' seen, I should have an advantage; that is, it was reasonable to believe that he would show up within shootin' distance durin' the next twenty-four hours.

"I made the tallest kind o' tracks when I once got started. I had to take the chance of his havin' found the hut an' bein' in ambush, and I'm not disputin' that it was a great load off my mind when I got safely settled among the rocks. I dashed into the hut and got my rifle and a hunk of cold meat, and in twenty seconds more I was safe for the time bein'. Jist from what direction the varmint would approach from I could not guess, but he would be still more puzzled to know what had become of me. For the first hour the place was as silent as a graveyard, and I was lookin' and listenin' as only a man can when his life is at stake, to git a hint of the whereabouts of my enemy. I finally got a sign. A buck deer come runnin' past me in a way to show that he had seen a human bein' not far off, and I figgered that the varmint was on approachin' from the east. He had made a complete half circle of my hidin'-place. For the next half hour I used my eyes and ears until my head ached. I knew the varmint was approachin' the hut, but he was comin' so cautiously that I could not tell the exact direction.

"The sun was now gettin' pretty low, and I allowed if he didn't show up pretty soon I'd be badly boxed up for the night. I was all on aige and skeercely able to hold myself, when, all of a sudden, the silence was broken by an awful yell, follered by a cry from some human bein'. It was only a cry of, but right there within a stone's throw, and I riz right up as if I had springs under me. Right there before my eyes, and not a hundred feet away, a panther and an Injun were having it hot and heavy, the beast using his claws and teeth, and the redskin cuttin' and slashin' with his knife. I was so astonished that I couldn't move for a minit or two, and when I got ready there was no use to shoot in'. The two varmints rolled over a dozen times, too badly mixed for me to tell which was which, and then the panther kinder drawed out of the fight. He might have got kicked feet away, when he keeled over and kicked in a way to tell me that he'd got his full. The Injun uttered a faint whoop as the panther drawed off, but when I reached him was dead as a door nail. He had fit it out hand to hand, usin' his huntin' knife, and I'm tellin' you he was a terrible looking object. The beast had torn almost every inch of clothin' off'n him, and he was bit and clawed until he was like raw beef.

"Well, I figgered it out purty easy. That panther had stowed hisself away on a limb, kalkerlatin' to make it hot for me. I reckon he didn't git up there until after I had ambushed myself, and when the redskin cum crawlin' along, the beast didn't stop to see whether he was white or black. I was a panther, rifle, tomahawk and huntin' knife ahead, and, although I remained there three weeks longer, I saw no further signs of Injuns."

II.

The Credit Belonged to the Mule.

"Three of us had been huntin' and trappin' on the Missouri about opposite the mouth of the Mussel Shell," said Dan Clash, when invited to tell a story. "That was in Montana, and we had a spur of the Little Rocky Mountains at our backs. There was plenty of timber along the river, and as for game, I never saw such a paradise. We were then three weeks without a sign of redskins, and we were thinkin' of packin' up and workin' along up stream to Fort Benton, when a number of calamities happened. One afternoon, Jack Smith, the best men as ever sighted a rifle or baited a trap, was struck in the leg by one of the biggest rattlesnakes I ever sot eyes on. We hadn't a drop of whiskey with us, nor would it have done him any good if we had had a bar'l of it. The pizen took hold of him as if shot into him with a gun, and in three-quarters of an hour he was a dead man.

"Next day, one of our pack mules strayed off, and Bill Collins, my survivin' partner, went off to hunt her up. As he didn't return in twenty-four hours I went out to scent around. I found the mule all torn to pieces by a grizzly, and not fur away was a bloody spot and a few shreds of clothin' to prove what Bill's fate had bin. That left me alone in a bad country, with a half load the other pack mule could tote. You may guess I didn't lose any time preparin' for a start. The loss of my two partners had rattled me, sartin, and I was afeard to run from my own shadow. I loaded up the traps, rifles and the choicest furs, and one mornin' sot out fur up river and the fort, which was a pull of about 160 miles. I got along all right the fust day, and when I went into camp I had about got my nerve back. At this pint, the strip of timber along the river was about 20 rods wide. Then there was a valley from three to five miles wide, and then the mountains.

"I unloaded the mule and turned her loose to find her own grub, knowin' that she would be on hand in the mornin'. She was a beast which had bin in the huntin' bizness all her life, and she could smell an Injun or locate a grizzly quicker nor any dog I ever sot eyes on. In fact, I depended on her to give me warnin' in any case anything happened durin' the night, and my confidence was not misplaced. It was about midnight when she pulled off'n me, and as I sot up and looked around, kinder dazed like, she kept her head pinted to the north, and softly whimpered, as if tryin' to talk to me. It was a starlight night, but with more or less clouds drivin' over, and it was so dark in the timber that you couldn't have seen a man ten feet away. I didn't know exactly what to do—whether to keep quiet or to scout around; but the old mule kept up her whimperin', and seemed so plainly to say that I ought to do sunthin', that I made a break and she followered me. When I got up to the aige of the timber, the first thing that caught my eye was a number of bright lights across the valley in the foot hills, and, as I held my breath to listen, I heard the faint barkin' of dogs and the shouts of people.

"I understood the situation in jist about a minit. A band of redskins had come into the valley—mebbe a huntin' party, and mebbe a whole village. It was a warnin' that a white man about my size had better pack up and be off, and I tell you I didn't let no grass grow under my feet in gittin' ready. I had traveled in the timber during the day, to keep out of sight and to hide my trail, but now I left the shelter and took to the valley. I had four clear hours to daylight, and the way that mule and me got up and humped ourselves, amazed the coyotes. I jest knew that we were twenty miles away when daylight broke. The timber now scattered along in groves, and afore daylight was too strong we took to shelter in a bit of timber containin' perhaps half an acre. This timber run to the bluffs of the river, and on the bank at that spot was eight or ten feet high.

"I wasn't jist what you might call an A 1 Injun fighter. As I had put twenty miles between me and the Injuns down in the valley, I sorter figgered that there wasn't another redskin nigher than them, and that I could take things pretty easy fur a spell. I unloaded the mule and turned her loose, and had jist eaten a bit of cold breakfast when tne beast cum slyly through the bushes, cars laid back and eyes shinin', and gin me to understand that sunthin' was wrong agin. She didn't plan for long before I was shakin' out straight fur the river, and I says to myself that perhaps she scented Injuns who were passin' up and down in canoes. I shouldered my rifle and crept to the bank, but I hadn't gone thirty yards when crack! crack! went two rifles, and two bullets zipped past my head in a way to make me dizzy. With a scream such as a wild beast might give, the mule made a rush in the direction of the shots, and I followed on.

"This was what had happened and what did happen. A couple of Injuns were perhaps comin down the valley when they saw me take to the grove. They saw me, but I didn't see them. They entered the grove on the upper side, leavin' their ponies tied to a tree, and were workin' around to get a shot at me in the rear when they tigged the game. Both fired at the same instant, and as a consequence both rifles were empty when the mule charged 'em. To escape her—and I'm tellin' you that she'd have taken hold like a dog—they scrambled up a cottonwood growin' on the very aige of the bank. One of 'em dropped his rifle on the ground, while the other took his up. The mule stood nigh the foot of the tree. 'Twas pawin' and squealin', and as soon as I saw how the land lay I lifted my rifle for a shot. The feller who had taken his gun up was workin' to load her, but I stopped him. My bullet hit him in the shoulder, and it was catch and go that he didn't tumble. I was loadin' fur another shot, and was takin' notice that the unwounded one was climbin' higher, when the mule humped back with a snort, and the tree began to go over. It went slowly and the reds yelled out in terror. When it struck the water there was an awful splash and great commotion. The tree was too green to float, and the water was so deep that only a few branches showed above the surface. I reckon that both Injuns were pinned down in some manner, for neither of 'em showed above the splash. I kept a clus watch all about the place fur half an hour, but not a sign of them could I see.

"I got one of their rifles, which was a splendid weapon, two ponies worth $100 apiece, a lot of steel traps and a large amount of powder and lead. It was more'n a week after that when I rode into Fort Benton, but I never saw another Injun nor had the least worry. When the fellers of the fort wanted to pat me on the back and call me big Injun, I pointed to the mule and said:

"'Genta, there stands the ole gal entitled to all the credit, and the thing I'm onhappy about is that she can't wear a silk dress.'"

Choice Miscellany.

Reported for the Maine Farmer.

Healthy School-Rooms.

[From a paper read before the Maine Pedagogical Society, Dec. 31, 1886, by Dr. J. O. Webster of Augusta, member of the State Board of Health.]

It is needless to argue the importance of school hygiene; it is self evident that the places in which our children spend so much of their time, in the formative and most susceptible period of life, should be in that condition most favorable to health; that however heavy a burden of unhygienic arrangements they have to bear at home, this burden should be lifted during the period in which they are under the authority of the commonwealth.

The three most important factors in securing healthy school-rooms are proper *heating and ventilation, seating, and lighting*; and it is to these topics that this paper is devoted.

HEATING AND VENTILATION.

I will take up first the subject of heating and ventilation, inseparable in our climate —a subject of prime importance, since hygienists are agreed that one-half the deaths are due to disease of the respiratory air.

In contrast to Dr. Phillips' observation in his locality, our Augusta school-houses are more apt to be over than under heated; but I have not observed that this, in the rural districts, goes out with the opening of windows. When it does have this effect, the rapid currents of air caused by differences of temperature, striking upon the children's heads, are not conducive to health.

For the healthy ventilation of a school-room it is required that the air be changed four times an hour, and that it be done without causing currents of sufficient velocity than five feet a second. In cold weather, of course, the heating of the air is also involved.

Hygiene demands of a heating apparatus for the school-room:

1. That there shall be attained, in a comparatively short time, a temperature of 65°—68° F., and the temperature shall remain at that point so long as the children remain in the room.

2. That the temperature of the room shall be as uniform as possible in all parts, therefore the warming must be not by radiation but by conduction by means of the air.

3. That the air of the heated room must remain as much as possible like the atmosphere, therefore must not be injured by the heating nor receive foreign admixtures.

4. That the heating apparatus must be easy to serve, its running free from danger, its first cost not too great, and the greatest possible results must be attained from the fuel used.

The attainment of most of the points depends on the form of heater used, and on the ventilation.

Heating is divided into local and central. In local heating, the apparatus is placed in the room to be heated, and this is the form necessarily to be used in most of our school-houses.

The fire-place may be excluded as a means of hearing school-houses, although useful for ventilation, because its effect is confined to its immediate vicinity and is attained at a large expense in fuel.

The best kind of stove is the one practicable form of local heater, but the common stove is excluded by our requirements, since it heats by radiation and does not promote an even temperature.

A school-room heater should have an air space between the stove proper and an outside casing, like a furnace, through which air, brought in from out-of-doors through a box under the floor, should flow and conduct the heat through the room. Many forms of such heaters are in use in France and Germany, and three at least are made in this country; but an ordinary cylinder stove can be provided with an external casing and used in the same way.

Central heating is where several rooms are warmed from a central source of heat, and is divided into hot air, hot water, and steam heating.

If we imagine the already described school-room heater transferred to the cellar and the heated air conducted by pipes to the room or rooms to be warmed, we have central hot air heating. If the furnace is large enough to furnish the needed amount of fresh air without over heating, and is so arranged that the heat is evenly distributed to the different rooms, and is so carefully constructed that there is no admixture of smoke or gasses with the air, this is a satisfactory and hygienic method of heating. Whatever apparatus is used, it must furnish large volumes of air at a temperature little above that at which it is desired to keep the rooms. Probably the Ruttan apparatus accomplishes this purpose better than any other form of air heater.

Of hot water heating it is unnecessary to speak in connection with school-houses, but steam heating is of wide application. The heating by direct radiation as it is called, where the radiators are set in the room to be heated, is unequivocally to be condemned as a means of heating school-rooms, since it makes no provision for change of air; it is suitable only for the corridors. The indirect method alone will do for a school-room, where the air is taken from out-of-doors, heated in boxes in the cellar which contain the radiators, and discharged through registers into the room above. This method has the advantage over that of the hot air furnace, that the heat can be distributed over a large building, and, if properly arranged, will heat all parts of it evenly; and is preferable for a school-house of several rooms.

Attempts have been made to admit the air from out-of-doors through the walls of the building into radiators set in the school-room, the so called direct-indirect method. This may be, in some old buildings, the only practicable method, and if the opening is large enough and is situated near the bottom of the radiator, and the latter is large enough and is boxed at the sides, leaving the top open for the escape of the heated air into the room, may accomplish very fair results. It is a great improvement on the unmodified direct method.

Ventilation is the means by which normally constituted is put in the place of contaminated air. We cannot remove directly the products of respiration from the air of a room, neither can we directly replace a given quantity of bad air with the same amount of good. The only way in which the quality can be improved is by the mixture of good air with the bad, diluting it; just as in a cask filled with colored water and furnished with an inlet and outlet pipe, if we allow a like amount of colorless water to flow in, it will not displace the whole of the colored, but we must pass in many times as much clear water before the outflow will be colorless.

In order to bring pure air into a room, we must provide for removing the same quantity of air from the room; but the air removed is no more contaminated than that which remains, but is of a uniform mixture with it. In no other way but by this constant mixing of pure air with the bad, and a constant removal of a portion of the mixture, can the air of a school-room be kept within the limits of health. This limit is represented by an increase of 1 to 1,000 in the proportion of carbonic acid normally present. This substance being the most easily measured, and increasing in the same proportion as the other products of respiration, is used as the index of the contamination of the air. The expired air contains 200 times this increase, and as a man expires about 10 cubic of air an hour, there are needed 200x10=2,000 cubic feet per hour for each person. But in a school-room, which is not constantly occupied, it is not necessary to introduce so much air, and about 750 cubic feet per hour on an average is considered a fair amount, or a change of air four times an hour, if the room be of proper size.

Difference of temperature is the important factor in natural ventilation, for if the doors and windows of a room be wide open, and there is no difference of temperature and no wind, there will be no exchange of air between outside and in.

Imagine from the bottom of the school-room a canal going to the cellar and there opening into a chimney flue that extends above the roof; also a canal from the open air entering the room; let both these canals and the room be filled with air of the same temperature, and the whole air column remains at rest. Now let the air in the chimney-flue be warmed, it becomes lighter and rises drawing air from the cellar, and our parts of the system, the room and the entering canal. This is called aspiration, and the method aspiration-ventilation. Any of the methods described which tend to add or introduce fresh air into the room; the warm air ascends immediately to the ceiling where it spreads out, then cooled by the walls and windows it sinks to the floor, newly heated, and so on. Theory is simple, is however a constant mixture of the upper and lower strata, and it results from the law of the diffusion of gases that there is scarcely any difference between the air of the different parts of the room, so that it makes no difference, from the point of view of ventilation, whether the outlets be at the top or the bottom of the room; but if they are at the top they will receive the newly warmed air, causing great loss of heat without compensating advantages; it is therefore essential, at least in winter, that the outlets be in or near the floor. The inlets for warmed air may be in the floor or in the walls as most convenient.

The ventilating flue may be heated by the smoke flue being separated from it only by a brick wall, better by an iron smoke pipe passing up through it, or, if necessary, by a small stove at its base.

The size of the openings and of the canals is to be proportioned to the amount of air to be moved and the rapidity with which it flows. The latter should not be greater than five feet a second. It follows that the very common inlet or outlet opening of 1 foot square for 50 pupils is insufficient; three or four times that space is needed.

If suitable methods are not provided for heating and ventilating the room, nature unaided will do much. The walls of our houses are porous, and in a windy day with considerable difference of temperature this is an important factor. If the room be heated by a stove, the air consumed to supply the fire-aids much in ventilation, as just so much fewer of the gases in the room, through the walls and around doors and windows, to supply its place. So in a school of 20 pupils—and too many of our rural school-houses have less than this number—with an external temperature not much above zero and an internal temperature of 65° F., the air will probably be kept in pretty good condition during the time the room is occupied continuously; if the windows be opened at recess and intermission.

When it is found necessary to open windows during school hours, they should be provided with pieces of board to fit under the lower sash, the pieces set obliquely so the top if the upper sash is lowered, that the entering air may be directed to the top of the room.

If the draft of the room is sufficient, a ventilating opening may be made directly into the bottom of the smoke flue, but this will usually interfere too much with the draft. In an old building a wooden ventilating box may be set, extending through the roof, with an opening at the floor. The smoke pipe may enter this box, pass up it nearly to the roof and then turn and enter the chimney. With proper precaution against fire, this will be just as efficient as a brick flue.

One of the best practical evidences of impurity of the air of a room, is the stuffy feeling it gives to persons coming in from the open air. As a positive proof of contamination it is necessary to measure the proportion of carbonic acid present. This is done by finding the amount of carbonate of lime formed in a given measured quantity of the air with lime water. Wolpert's Tester is a simple and convenient instrument for doing this, though not absolutely exact.

SCHOOL-SEATS.

Upon the question of the proper construction of school-seats and desks, much of the interest in school hygiene has concentrated itself of late years, and the literature of the subject has become extensive. Since the source of spinal curvature, nearsightedness, and a host of other evils is believed to have been found in improper sitting, many new forms of seats have been invented.

The mechanics of sitting is an interesting subject, but we lack time to enter upon it, and must be content with giving the practical results.

The seat should be of the height of the bend of the knee, so that the feet may rest squarely upon the floor; and its width must be equal to the length of the thigh, but the forward edge must not reach so far as to press upon the vessels and nerves behind the knee.

The back of the seat is of vital necessity, since without its support the body cannot be maintained in a proper position without constant muscular effort. This support should be given at the right point; for if the upper part of the back alone be supported, the spine will be bent forward and the thorax compressed. Support to the sacrum is of primary importance, and the back should extend high enough to support the loins, and perhaps the lower part of the dorsal region. The back should start from the seat nearly perpendicularly and should acquire a backward curve as it ascends, following the curve of the spine. Many seats have the back concave at the lower part, so that support is lacking where it most needed. I know of but two makes of the "Combination" school seats with the proper curve to the back.

The height of the desk should be proportioned to that of the seat, and their difference should be such that the fore arms can be laid upon the desk without raising the shoulders, or the edge of the desk should be at the height of the elbows of the sitting child; the desk will then be at the normal sight-distance from the eyes. This matter of the difference in height of the seat and desk is very important, for if the desk be too low, the body will be bent in writing, and the head will be lowered to bring the eyes near enough for clear vision, with very injurious results; while if the desk be too high, the shoulders, arm, or both, will be raised, with great distortion of the spine, taxing of the muscles, interference with action of the heart and lungs, and injury to the eyes.

The distance of the desk is of great importance, that is the distance between vertical lines falling from the edge of the desk and the edge of the seat. This is of three kinds: Plus-distance, where there is an actual distance between the lines; zero-distance, where the edge of the desk and seat are in the same vertical line; and minus-distance, where the edge of the desk overhangs that of the seat. The minus-distance is that now accepted as the most advantageous for the pupil, and the best preventive of faulty positions in writing. The amount of overlapping is given as from 1 to 2½ inches.

The objection has been raised to the zero, or minus-distance desks, that they do not permit the pupil to stand in front of his seat. With single or double desks, which are now everywhere used in this country, pupils can better stand in the aisles between the rows of desks.

The desk should have a slope of 2 inches in 12, making the angle of vision about 60°. A greater slope would be more favorable to the eyes, but is inconvenient.

Having considered the hygienic requirements of school furniture, let us see how their requirements are met.

Besides the old forms of desks and benches that are still found in most of our rural schools, and that violate in every respect the principles of hygiene, American school furniture—and in this specialty we are far in advance of all the rest of the world—is divided into two general classes, the "Boston" and the "Combination" patterns.

The Boston furniture consists of a desk supported on a piece of ornamental cast iron work at each end, and a chair supported by a cast iron pedestal under the seat. It has the advantages that the seats and desks are independent, and desks of different heights can be set in the same row; and that the pupil can enter or leave the seat more easily than with other kinds. It has the disadvantage that the screws that fasten the chair to the floor are very apt to become loose, owing to the great leverage furnished by the chair in proportion to the small surface standing upon the floor; and the chairs are not so comfortable as the *best* combination seats.

The combination furniture is so called because a seat is combined with a desk, not with its own desk, but with the one behind it; hence two sizes must not be set in the same row, otherwise a seat and desk not proportioned to each other will come together. The seat is usually hinged so that it can be turned up, leaving standing room behind the desk; but this is of doubtful utility, except in sweeping the room. Both these kinds of furniture can be set at plus, zero, or minus distance.

Much ingenuity has been expended in constructing tilting seats that will automatically tip up when the pupil rises. These are dangerous, from the liability of the pupil to forget that the seat is raised, and to injure himself by sitting forcibly upon its edge or on the floor; they are objectionable from being necessarily more complicated; and they are unnecessary, for reasons already given.

As already stated, most of the combination furniture has faultily shaped backs, and only two makes, so far as I know, are to be commended.

Considering everything, *pro* and *con*, it is difficult to decide which has the balance of advantage in its favor, the Boston or the best form of the combination furniture; but the former is clearly superior to three-fourths of the combination furniture in the market.

Whatever kind of furniture is used, two or more sizes should be included in each room, and the teacher should see to it that each pupil has a seat and desk proportioned to his height.

Elaborate tables have been constructed, giving all the dimensions of seats and desks for every given height of pupil; but the few simple rules already given are sufficient for the proper seating of pupils. The results arrived at, from many observations, are formulated as follows:

1. The height of the seat = 2-7 the body-height.
2. The width of the seat = 1-5 the body-height.
3. The distance = 1-7 the body-height.
4. The width of the desk = 15-18 inches.
5. The slope of the desk = 2 inches in 12.

LIGHTING.

One of the commonest unfavorable results of school life is injury of the eyes. Near-sightedness is very rarely hereditary. When it exists, it has almost always been acquired while attending school; and numerous examinations, both in this country and abroad, prove that it shows a steady increase as we go from lower to higher grades of school.

One cause of this has been already indicated in the faulty construction of school furniture; but a far more fruitful source is found in insufficient and improper lighting. It is safe to say that not one school-room in fifty, in our State, is properly lighted. The suitable lighting of a school-room demands:

1st. That the windows face that part of the sky which affords a suitable light.

2d. That the daylight be kept from the room by no obstructions.

3d. That the windows be of proper height and width.

4th. That the windows be properly arranged.

5th. That the interior arrangements be such that the light is suitably distributed.

1st. If the light comes from the east or south it will be impossible to exclude the direct rays of the sun from the desks without making the light insufficient. Every room should, however, receive the direct rays of the sun for some part of the day. For this reason lighting from northeast or northwest is preferable, giving reflected light only during school hours, but permitting the access of direct sunlight before or after school.

2. The free access of light to the school house depends upon the nature of its surroundings. No building should be so near the windows as to cut off more than 20° or 25° of the sky above the horizontal line of the window sills, which requires that it be distant about 2½ times the height above this line. High solid fences should not be allowed near the windows, neither should vines be trained about them.

3d. The fullest supply of light about the school house is self-evidently useless unless there be sufficiently large and numerous openings for its admission to the school-room. The windows must be as high and wide as practicable. The window stools should be 3½ or 4 feet from the floor, that the light may strike downward upon the desks; and the top should extend to, as nearly as possible, within six inches of the ceiling. The windows should be arranged in a long side of the room, not grouped, but distributed evenly nearly its whole length, and their width should be such as to provide a sufficient glass surface for the size of the room. In the open country, a glass surface equal to 1-6 the area of the floor is enough, but in a city 1-5 or more will often be required.

4th. One who undertakes to write with the light coming from the right hand will be annoyed by the shadow of the hand falling upon the paper at the very spot where he is writing. On this simple fact depends the necessity that school-rooms be lighted from the left side of the desk; hence as so much school work is now done with the pen and pencil that the direction of the light has become of great importance.

The worst light is that from in front, its rays failing directly into the eyes of the pupils and scarcely at all illuminating their desks. If your school-room has a window facing the pupils, keep its shades constantly closed.

Light from behind alone is unsuitable, since the pupil's work would be in the shade of his body, but light from the rear in combination with that from the left is not objectionable.

Lighting from both sides is very undesirable, although it may be necessary to continue it in many old buildings when the width is greatly out of proportion to the length. In new buildings it should never be used, because by the casting of shadows and a peculiar reflexion it is liable to prove injurious to the eyes of pupils.

5th. The walls of the school-room should not be white, since they would reflect the light too intensely, nor too dark, since they would absorb too much light. The best color is a bluish gray, what is known as a light French gray. The ceiling may be white, since the rays of light cannot strike it in such a way as to be injuriously reflected upon the desks, or blue. The window shades, if any, should be blue or gray, and the wood work, if painted, about the color of the walls, of a darker shade.

To recapitulate: 1st, lighting from the northeast or northwest; 2d, no obstruction to access of light; 3d, glass surface 1-6 to 1-5 the floor surface, the windows of proper height; 4th, lighting always from the left of the pupils and rear; 5th, walls neither white nor too dark.

But however perfect the light, eyes may and will be injured if fixed upon a book long at a time. When adapted to near vision, the normal eye is in a state of tension, and should be rested by looking at *Farmer*, it would give me courage to write again. HARTWELL HUNTON.

New Vineyard.

I am a girl 12 years old. I read your letters in the young folks' column. I read in the August *Farmer* that my name is Zilpha Morrison. I like her very much; she has taught here four terms, and they all like her very much. I have two brothers, and their names are Jerred and George. Jerred is 11 years old, and George is 9 years old. I will close by sending a riddle: I went out in the woods and got it, when I got it I looked for it, I could not find it, I carried it home in my hand.

Little Ridgton. ANNIE BLANEY.

I am a girl 14 years old. I am not going to school this winter, I study at home. We take the *Maine Farmer*, and I like it very much. I like the young folks' column very much. We live on a small farm one half mile from the village. I have an organ, and take music lessons of Miss Rhodes, she is a lovely teacher. Can any of the girls that write for the young folks' column give directions for making tissue paper roll lilies? ESTELLE W.

Pittsfield.

I am a little girl 13 years old. I like to read the young folks' column very much. I went to school a term of eight weeks, I like my teacher very much. I can sew, knit, sweep and wash dishes. I live on a farm with my grandmother and grandfather. We have got one cow and two heifers. For pets I have got a cat and a dog. The cat's name is Jip, the dog's name is Watch. GLADIE G. BOYNTON.

Medway.

I am a little girl 10 years old; I live on a farm. My father takes the *Farmer* and I like it very much. I went to school this fall a term of ten weeks; my teacher's name is Eva Silsby; I like her very much. For pets I have two cats and a puppy; my cats' names are Minnie and Pearl, and my dog's name is Jack. Last summer I had for pets two English rabbits, their names were Dick and Dolly.

Aurora. MYRA E. RITCHIE.

I am a girl 12 years old. I like to read the young folks' column very much. I go to school now, our teacher's name is Fred Stinson, he is a very nice teacher; I study reading, spelling, arithmetic, geography, grammar and writing. I am taking music lessons now. How many of the young folks' column can answer this question, which is the largest bet ever made?

Pittsfield. IVA W.

I am a girl 12 years old. I read your letters in the young folks' column. I went to school last term, and my teacher's name is Zilpha Morrison. I study geography, grammar, drawing, history and writing; I am going in the fifth reader next February. I like to read your letters and study out the riddles. HANNAH WETHERBY.

Little Ridgton.

Young Folks' Column.

As it has been a long while since I wrote for your column, I thought I would help fill it. Stern old winter has come again, and with it has come the cold weather and the driving storms which make everything disagreeable. Still, I like winter for all that. These pleasant moonlight nights what fun it is to get a crowd of boys and girls and a lot of sleds and go out and slide. I wonder if the boys and girls who write for this column enjoy it as well as I do. I think it is much better fun to slide evenings than to stay in the house and knit; but for all that I have to do it, as we have a large family to work for. I have four sisters and one brother to help work for. The object of my writing was to see if we girls and boys who write for the young folks' column, can not have some one thing to write about and to express what we think about it. I do not want to get anything to quarrel about, as the contributors of the woman's department did about tobacco. I think if we do that it will be just upon us if the editor takes the column from us. Now, let us see what we shall write about. I have been thinking that we might get up a temperance club, and see who of the young folks will join. Let us girls be the officers; what I mean by that is, that every one that will join may write and let us know through this column, and some of us girls will keep an account of those who join, and at the end of this year see how many we will have on the list. Let us see how well we will begin the new year and keep it up until the last of the year, and then perhaps we will have a club and will have something else. Let us write through the column or personally about it. I shall feel discouraged if you let this drop, as we did that of fresh making association. I suppose that did not interest the boys, but I think this ought to. I will close now and wait awhile to hear what the rest of the young folks have to say.

Egypt. ETTA V. WEST.

In answer to S. L. M.'s puzzle sent me through the *Maine Farmer* of Jan. 13th, I send the following: The sheep owner probably reasoned in this way: I have 17 sheep, I desire to give ½ to one son, ⅓ to the second and 1-9 to the third. Now I cannot divide my sheep in this way without killing them, but if I add one to the number I can. If I add one to the number, there will be 18 sheep which can be represented by 18-18. But I am to give away ½, (which is equal to 9-18) plus ⅓, (which is equal to 6-18) plus 1-9, (which is equal to 2-18) or 17-18, so that the one that I add must be 1-18, and the 17 that I am to give away must be 17-18. If 17 are 17-18, 1-18 must be 1-17 of 17 or 1; and if 1-18 equal 1, 9-18, which I give the first must be 9 times 1, or 9; and 6-18 which I give the second must be 6 times 1, or 6; and 2-18 which I give the third must be 2 times 1, or 2. So I may give my first son 9 sheep, my second 6, and my third 2, or as follows: The sheep are to be divided in the proportion of ½, ⅓, and 1-9. Clearing of fractions, we have the proportional numbers 9, 6 and 2, their sum equal 17. First has 9-17 of 17, or 9; second has 6-17 of 17, or 6; third has 2-17 of 17, or 2. JOHN L. CLARK.

Bangor.

I am a little girl 12 years old. This is my first letter for the *Maine Farmer*. I have got two sisters, one brother, and one half sister; their names are Mattie, Nellie, Freddie and Anna Bell. My home is in Waterville, but I live at Mr. Moses Green's in Fairfield. He takes the *Farmer*, and I enjoy reading the little girls' letters, and boys', too, when they write. I can knit, sew, wash dishes, make beds, and do most all other kinds of work that a girl of my age can do. I went to school a term of eleven weeks last fall and was not absent a day. My teacher's name is Gertrude Higgins of Fairfield; we all liked her very much; she taught the summer and fall terms and is teaching this winter, but I don't go. It is 1¼ miles. I study at home and C. W. Green is my teacher, and I like him very much. I think the answer to Georgie E. Hunnington's riddle is a watch. MAE R. SHORTY.

West Fairfield.

I am a boy eight years old and live on a farm. I went to school nineteen weeks last summer; we had a very nice school. My teacher's name is Millie J. Boston; they all liked her very much and learned very fast. I read in the fourth reader, study geography, arithmetic and spelling. For pets I have four sheep and one cat, and her name is Addie. I haven't but one sister, and not any brother. My sister is thirteen months old and can walk some. She and I have some very good times playing together. I have one grandmother and one grandfather, and one great grandfather, but my grandmother died the fifteenth of last month. I never have seen my great-grandfather or great grandmother since I can remember. The answer to Annie G. Trip's Bible question is in Genesis, eighteenth chapter, eighth verse. I will send a bible question: Where in the Bible is saddle mentioned?

Showhegan. WARDIE A. CHIPMAN.

I am a little girl ten years old. I will write for this column. I live on a farm; my father keeps cows, horses, hogs, sheep and hens. My mother has been blind eight years; she knits a great many pairs of socks and mittens in a year, she knits one sock in a day. I am staying with my grandma now. I can cook some, I can knit, sew, wash dishes, sweep the floor and make beds. I go to school, and study fifth reader, arithmetic, spelling and writing. For pets I have two birds. I think the answer to Alice M's. last riddle is an icicle. I want to tell the young folks about our Christmas tree. Santa Claus and his wife were here, and brought us many presents. I had a very nice time. I will close by sending a riddle: Once there was a man went a hunting, all that he caught he killed, and what he didn't catch he brought home alive.

Medway. LENA A. FOWLER.

Our Sabbath-school had a Christmas tree but it rained and so I did not go. For presents I had a hood, a box of paints, a mug, a book, and two bags of candy. My sister is teaching school. My school has kept nine weeks and I expect it will keep two weeks longer. I was going to answer Hattie Mabel Young's enigma but Belle Randlett got ahead of me. I will send some riddles: There are two hills, one east and the other west, a cat on each hill, one cat looking east the other looking west, how can they see each other without turning round? A man is on the steeple of a church, he has no rope or ladder, all he has is a goose and a shingle, how is he going to get down? How many pounds of sand in a hole a foot square?

Palmyra. MABEL JOHONNETT.

I am a boy 14 years old, well known by one of your editorial staff as Master Hartwell Hunton, late of Augusta, but after having been employed in the M. C. R. R. repair shops. And as the good old *Farmer* finds its way into our new home, bringing to the new settlers, we feel at home, we look for its coming as an old friend. And the reading of its columns brings back many pleasant thoughts and the good times I had with my playmates while a member of the grammar school at Augusta. And if these poorly composed lines should find their way into the columns of the dear old *Farmer*, it would give me courage to write again. HARTWELL HUNTON.

New Vineyard.

I am a girl 12 years old. I read your letters in the young folks' column. I read in the August *Farmer* that my name is Zilpha Morrison. I like her very much; she has taught here four terms, and they all like her very much. I have two brothers, and their names are Jerred and George. Jerred is 11 years old, and George is 9 years old. I will close by sending a riddle: I went out in the woods and got it, when I got it I looked for it, I could not find it, I carried it home in my hand.

Little Ridgton. ANNIE BLANEY.

I am a girl 14 years old. I am not going to school this winter, I study at home. We take the *Maine Farmer*, and I like it very much. I like the young folks' column very much. We live on a small farm one half mile from the village. I have an organ, and take music lessons of Miss Rhodes, she is a lovely teacher. Can any of the girls that write for the young folks' column give directions for making tissue paper roll lilies? ESTELLE W.

Pittsfield.

I am a little